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TODAY IN SPORTS

Friday, Feb. 10, 2012

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Volume 107 • No. 255

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Viewpoints: Arnie Aurellano

The Perryton basketball incident, revisited | p4

Lucky thirteen for these kids

Meet your district champion swim teams | p2B

Pampa posts strong tax revenues for fiscal quarter

■ *Tax receipts up over 13 percent from numbers of same period last year*

MOLLIE BRYANT

mbryant@thepampanews.com

According to the Texas Comptroller, sales tax revenue for the state's first quarter of the fiscal year was up almost 10 percent from the same period last year. Pampa exceeded that, with a 13 percent increase over last year's first quarter sales tax receipts.

"When you make a purchase in the City of Pampa, you pay 8.25 percent on taxable sales, and then 6.25 percent goes to the state and 2 percent comes to the city,"

said Robin Bailey, Finance Director of the City of Pampa. "Of that 2 percent, a fourth of that goes to the Pampa Economic Development Corporation (PEDC)."

For the first quarter of the fiscal year, the city collected a total of

\$1,371,786.03. Of that figure, the PEDC receives \$342,946.51, leaving the city with \$1,028,839.52. According to Bailey, the city is \$179,404.07 over the sales tax they had budgeted for.

"Typically, we budget for the current year based on the prior year's collection," she said. "Sometimes there's some trending that goes into that; like in 2008, it had gone up quite a bit, but in 2009 when we budgeted, we didn't budget quite as much. We knew things were slowing down, and then they started

picking back up."

Tax revenue for this quarter includes December and the Christmas season, which was especially strong. During the previous fiscal year, the city collected \$395,427.60, compared with this December's \$448,140.55.

TAX cont. on page 5A



Bailey

Pampa man nabbed with 15g of meth

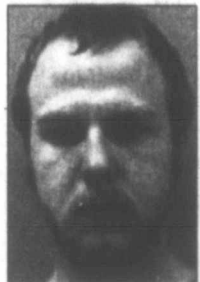
MOLLIE BRYANT

mbryant@thepampanews.com

Deputies with the Gray County Sheriff's Office made an arrest Wednesday evening for an individual in possession of methamphetamine.

Around 9 p.m., deputies stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation in the 700 block of Sloan. The passenger, Benjamin Griffin, 20, of Pampa, was arrested on an outstanding warrant of theft of property in an amount greater than \$50 and less than \$500. Deputies discovered that he had approximately 15 grams of methamphetamine, and charged him with possession of a controlled substance in an amount of four grams or greater but less than 200 grams.

Bond for Griffin was set at \$15,000.



Griffin

DIGGING THE FURNITURE



staff photo by Mollie Bryant

Fourth grader Evan Boyd (foreground) investigates the pews yesterday at the White Deer Land Museum. His class took a field trip to the museum, hosted by Altrusa and Top O' Texas Republican Women.

RELAY SEASON IS COMING



photo courtesy of Melissa Denton

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life Gray County Committee attended the West Texas Regional Summit in Lubbock recently to plan and set goals for the 2012 Relay season. Pictured from left are Angela Denton, Sherry Gee, Cassi Denton, Nicole Dowdy, Melissa Denton, Pam Dalton and Christy Robinson.

Luggage drive at CASA in Feb.

MOLLIE BRYANT

mbryant@thepampanews.com

For the month of February, CASA of the High Plains is accepting new or gently used luggage during its first luggage drive, called Luggage of Love. Foster children, who move an average of seven times, will receive the luggage.

"When foster children move from place to place, most of the time, they don't have luggage to move," said Janet Watts,



Watts

DRIVE cont. on page 5A

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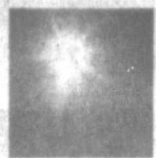

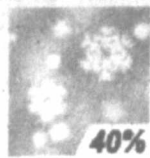
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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 43 Low 18	High 30 Low 20	High 31 Low 28 40%

Today: Sunny, with a high near 43. Wind chill values between 13 and 23. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 18. Wind chill values between 8 and 13. Southeast wind around 10 mph.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 30. East southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 20. East southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Sunday: A 40 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a high near 31. South southeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday Night: A 40 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 28. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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The Pampa News (USPS 781-540) is published daily, except Sundays, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

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Obituaries

Roy H. "R.H." Cox, 84

Roy H. "R.H." Cox, 84, of Norman, Okla., passed away Sunday, February 5, 2012, in Norman, Okla.

Roy was born in Alanreed, to Josh and Bessie Cox. He graduated from High School in South Lockett. Roy was a noted brick mason, loved fishing, horse racing and visiting with family and friends. He loved to pick the guitar with his sons and sing.

Roy is survived by his children, Lonnie Cox and wife Sue, of Canadian, Paula (Cox) Smith, of Pampa, Steve Cox and wife Terri, of Amarillo, Scott Cox and wife Tilly, of Calumet, Okla., Debbie Cory, of Norman, Okla., and Denise Henry, of



Cox

Norman, Okla.; 15 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; four brothers, Jr. Cox, Wallace Cox, Glenn Cox and Danny Cox; one sister, Sue Baird. The family of R.H. wishes to send out a special thanks to niece and nephew, Mike and Gion Eades.

He is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Audrey; one brother, Carl; one grandson, Chance. A Celebration of Life will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, February 11, 2012, at Eastern Avenue Church, 836 N. Eastern Ave., Moore, OK, with Pastor Harvey Spear officiating.

In lieu of flowers, family suggests that donations be made to Eastern Ave. Church. Services are under the direction of the John M. Ireland Funeral Home & Chapel, Moore, OK.

John Arthur King, 91

John Arthur King, 91, died February 8, 2012, in Pampa.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

For the record

Cont. from Thursday

Sheriff's Office

Johnny Waldon Reagan, 50, was arrested by deputies on a sentence for non payment of child support.

Jelani Rashod McNeal, 33, was arrested by police on a warrant for making a terroristic threat and driving with license expired.

Miguel Angel Garcia, 18, was arrested by police for minor driving under the influence.

Tuesday, Feb. 7

David Tracey Chambers, 50, was arrested by deputies on a warrant for possession of a marijuana in an amount greater than two ounces and less than four ounces.

Billy Michael Grimes, 50, was arrested by police on a warrant for resisting arrest and evading arrest.

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24 hour period ending Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 7 a.m.

Pampa EMS responded to 11 medical calls.

Pampa PD reported 10 traffic related incidents.

Animal Control agents reported seven animal related incidents.

Tuesday, Feb. 7

An accident occurred at the 1600 block of East Highway 60.

Stalking occurred at the 1100 block of West Crane.

A theft occurred at the 400 block of North Ballard.

An accident occurred at Kentucky and Banks.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 4000 block of Bad Cattle Company.

Identity theft was reported.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1100 block of South Varnon.

A theft occurred at the

1400 block of North Hobart.

A burglary of a motor vehicle occurred at the 300 block of West Foster.

Phone harassment occurred at the 1700 block of North Hamilton.

Harassment was reported at the 1200 block of Hamilton.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 300 block of East Linda.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

A suspicious person was reported at the 700 block of North Davis.

A theft occurred at the 2200 block of Hamilton.

An accident occurred at the 800 block of South Hobart.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests for the 24 hour period ending Thursday, February 8 at 7 a.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

Billy Grimes, 50, was arrested by police on charges of resisting arrest, search or transport and for evading arrest or detention.

Matthew Dustin Cates, 35, was arrested by deputies for driving while intoxicated, third or greater charge.

Laura Frances, 27, was arrested by police for abandonment or endangerment of a child and criminal negligence.

Billy Bob Stowers, 26, was arrested by police on charges of violation of a protective order and assault of family or a house member.

Bobby Lee Faries, 27, was arrested by police for aggravated sexual assault of a child.

Justin Michael Wehrenberg, 23, was arrested by deputies for evading arrest with a vehicle.

Floyd Wayne Baker, 28, was arrested by DPS of-

ficers for driving while intoxicated.

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24 hour period ending Thursday, Feb. 9 at 7 a.m.

Pampa PD reported 17 traffic related incidents.

Animal Control agents and the Pampa PD reported eight animal related incidents.

Pampa EMS responded to four medical calls.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

An accident occurred at the 1000 block of North Mary Ellen.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 1400 block of West Somerville.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 4000 block of North Bad Cattle Company.

A suspicious person was reported at the 400 block of North Nelson.

A theft occurred at the 1000 block of South Dwight.

An accident occurred at the 300 block of North 30th.

A theft occurred at the 2100 block of North Peryton.

An accident occurred at the 1400 block of North Hobart.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 1600 block of West Somerville.

A suspicious person was reported at the 600 block of West Crawford.

Thursday, Feb. 9

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 500 block of North Doyle and the 1200 block of North Wells.

A theft occurred at the 1900 block of North Hobart.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sher-

iff's Office reported the following arrests for the 24 hour period ending Thursday, Feb. 9 at 7 a.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

Zachery Joe Baker, 20, was arrested by deputies for failure to identify a fugitive from justice.

Melissa Mae Louis Penterman, 38, was arrested by police on a bond to surrender in connection with a charge of possession or transport of a chemical with intent to manufacture a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Bobbi Larae Bolton, 46, was arrested by deputies on a bond to surrender in connection with a charge of possession of marijuana in an amount greater than two ounces and less than four ounces.

Daniel Ray Holguin, 22, was arrested by police for burglary of a habitation.

Michael Joseph Chavez, 29, was arrested by deputies for possession of a controlled substance, heroin, in an amount less than one gram.

Alexis Janelle Flores, 25, was arrested by deputies for possession of a controlled substance, heroin, in an amount less than one gram.

Benjamin Samuel Griffin, 20, was arrested by deputies on charges of possession of a controlled substance in an amount greater than or equal to four grams but less than 200 grams and theft of property greater than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.

Savannah Nichole Hinshaw, 19, was arrested by deputies on charges of failure to signal within a required distance and failure to change address.

Katherine Clair Noel, 26, was arrested by DPS officers for driving while intoxicated.

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Santorum endorses fracking

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Republican presidential hopeful Rick Santorum is concentrating on local energy issues as he works his way through natural-gas rich Oklahoma.

Santorum found a receptive crowd of nearly 1,000 people in an Oklahoma City hotel Thursday by giving an unflinching endorsement to hydraulic fracturing. That's the controversial method for extracting natural gas using pressurized chemicals to break open gas-bearing rock.

Santorum says environmental concerns are unfounded. He called them "the new boogeyman" meant to scare the public.

The former Pennsylvania senator has two events in the conservative state, which holds its primary early next month. His second campaign stop is at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa.

Santorum is fresh off primary victories Tuesday in Minnesota, Missouri and Colorado.

Cartels use rural NM counties

ESTANCIA, N.M. (AP) — Officials say smaller, rural New Mexico counties are becoming staging areas for Mexican drug cartels because of their major interstate highways and back roads.

KRQE-TV reports that New Mexico sheriffs recently heard about the increased cartel activities at a conference near the U.S.-Mexico border.

Torrance County Sheriff Heath White said authorities may never know the true extent of the cartel operations in New Mexico because their purpose here is not violence. Instead, he said Mexican drug cartels simply want to move their drugs and remain undetected.

Investigators fear that's why the cartels here will likely remain quiet.

White said federal agencies like the federal agents are taking the lead in identifying and arresting suspects linked to the cartels, but local authorities also need to know how to identify them.

Spring rain unlikely for Texas

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — La Nina will soon come to an end -- but don't expect spring showers in drought-stricken Texas.

The Climate Prediction Center announced Thursday that La Nina will dissipate between March and May. It brings less rainfall and warmer-than-normal temperatures, but its departure won't lead to immediate weather changes.

Victor Murphy of the National Weather Service says La Nina conditions are expected to remain in Texas the next several months. That's why forecasts show below-normal rainfall across the state this spring -- usually the wettest months of the year.

He says rain could come this summer and fall. It's not expected to end the severe drought that's plagued the state for more than a year.

But December and January rainfall has eased drought conditions in parts of Texas.

First lady comes to Texas

DALLAS (AP) — First lady Michelle Obama spends the next two days in North Texas as she makes a three-day national tour to promote childhood fitness and the battle against childhood obesity.

Obama's first North Texas stop will be at Thursday's dinner hour in Fort Worth, where she'll preside over a roundtable dinner discussion at a Fort Worth restaurant with parents who are changing habits in their homes and communities.

On Friday, she'll join chef contestants from past seasons of the Bravo series "Top Chef" and members of the Dallas Cowboys to promote healthier food choices for students in the nation's schools. The chefs will compete in a health cooking contest with students at the Kleberg Rylie Recreation Center in southeastern Dallas.

Judge slams prayer ruling critics

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A federal judge blasted by Newt Gingrich and other conservatives for his ruling that prohibited prayer at a Texas high school graduation is firing back in accepting a settlement to the case.

U.S. District Judge Fred Biery on Thursday admonished those who "demagogued this case for their own political goals." He then added, "You should be ashamed of yourselves."

Biery did not mention anyone by name in his court order. Yet one target appeared to be Texas Gov. Rick Perry, who condemned the judge's decision last summer to issue the prayer ban after an agnostic family filed a lawsuit.

Under the settlement, the Medina Valley Independent School District will not officially make prayer part of graduation ceremonies. The settlement doesn't prohibit student speakers from praying during their remarks.

War hero impostor quits

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston-area man has quit as a post-traumatic stress counselor for veterans after records do not back his claim of earning numerous war medals.

Paul Arthur Schroeder of The Woodlands apologized Wednesday and resigned from the PTSD Foundation of America.

Schroeder presented himself as a former Special Forces sergeant who earned a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart and other honors. He claimed to have served in Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa and Central and South America.

Military personnel records at Fort Knox, Ky., do not indicate that Schroeder deployed overseas or earned the honors. He was a military police officer at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio.

The Stolen Valor Act makes lying about earning military awards a federal crime.

An FBI spokeswoman says such allegations are taken seriously.

Maine is next to weigh in on GOP race

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Mitt Romney and Ron Paul are the undisputed favorites in Maine, the next state weighing in on the Republican presidential race. They're the only candidates who have made much of an effort here.

The state's Republican Party is set to announce the victor Saturday night of the GOP contest. Local Republican Party committees have spent the last week holding caucuses in schools, town halls and fire stations up and down the state.

The results — the first step toward electing the state's 24 delegates to the Republican National Convention — aren't likely to dramatically change the dynamics of the overall GOP race. But the outcome could give bragging rights to the victor as well as an uptick in delegates.

"There are pockets of support for everybody," says state GOP Chairman Charles Webster. Still, he adds: "It's fair to say the race will come down to Romney and Paul."

Romney, the GOP front-runner, is looking to rebound after a trio of losses to former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum on Tuesday, and is making a last-minute trip to Maine at the end of the week in hopes of avoiding a fourth consecutive loss — and one all but in the former Massachusetts governor's backyard.

Paul, the libertarian-leaning Texas congressman, is searching for his first victory, visiting the

state Friday for a second time in recent weeks. Newt Gingrich is working to reset his campaign after a string of defeats in the weeks since his South Carolina victory, while Santorum wants to capitalize on his burst of momentum.

Both Romney and Paul competed in Maine four years ago and still have some semblance of organizations from those campaigns in the state. Romney came in first place that year, while Paul finished third, behind John McCain. Paul was the only candidate to make a pre-caucus visit to Maine. Romney's wife, Ann Romney, held a fundraiser in the state in the fall. Romney's son Tagg also has visited the state, telling Republicans that his father has the business experience and self-discipline to find solutions to tough problems in Washington.

Gingrich and Santorum have had little to no presence and have virtually no campaign organizations in the state.

It's a different political environment than it was back when the presidential spotlight last shown on the state.

In the 2008 general election, Maine voters went heavily for Barack Obama. The state's governor, House and Senate remained in Democratic hands, as had been the case since 2003.

But the tea party emerged in 2010 and made its voice loud and clear by taking over the GOP platform at the state convention, helping propel now-Gov. Paul LePage

past six challengers in the GOP primary, and igniting a fire that helped the Republican Party take over both chambers of the Maine Legislature.

For the first time, Sen. Olympia Snowe is facing a primary challenge. Snowe, who's long been known for moderate politics that at times stray from the party line, faces challenges from tea party activist Andrew Ian Dodge and conservative Scott D'Amboise.

Paul's backers have been particularly vocal during the caucuses this year. In Augusta, boisterous Paul supporters greeted party members outside Farrington Elementary School with a Paul-inspired song played to the tune of "New York, New York."

Paul's troops are optimistic and hopeful of a strong finish.

"As in Iowa and New Hampshire, Paul has an active ground game in Maine," said Colby College student Adam Thompson, a Paul supporter. He added: "It will not be won easily."

Romney's campaign boasts a list of prominent state officials backing him, including Attorney General William Schneider, four state senators and seven House members.

"Gov. Romney has had a strategy and organization in the state since early on," said Josh Tardy, a former GOP Maine House leader and Romney supporter. "Romney is hopeful for a good showing in Maine."

El Paso ranch tends to suffering horses

FABENS (AP) — After being abandoned or suffering a life of abuse and hardship, horses that arrive at the M.H. Ranch don't look as if they have much life left in them.

But with time and more than 25,000 acres to roam and graze, these horses are given a second chance to become bucking horses for the rodeo or even riding horses. Those horses that are not deemed fit for either are taken for slaughter in Mexico, where several of them were originally destined before they arrived in El Paso. Horses deemed totally unfit are sent to Mexico or Canada because horse slaughter ended in the United States in 2007.

On Wednesday, the M.H. Ranch received 17 additional horses that were unwanted and abandoned — a growing problem due to today's economy, said Hank Webb, an equine expert from New Mexico. About 70 horses are now in the care of M.H. Ranch owners Lorie and Tom Heck.

"People can't afford to take care of them anymore," Webb said. "As a result, there are many of them that are being abandoned. Some people who go riding have come back and find several horses hitched up to their trailer with a note saying, 'Please take care of them.'"

Lorie Heck said the M.H. Ranch is a for-profit enterprise whose main interest is the recovery of horses. Horses that are rejected by Mexican veterinarians who don't allow them to go to slaughter due to illness, open wounds, pregnancy, malnourishment and injuries are sent to the M.H. Ranch.

"Some of these horses come from Wisconsin in a trailer," Lorie Heck said. "And they come in without food or water. And when they get to the border, they sit there for 10 hours with no water or food until they get rejected (for slaughter), and they come here to recover."

When a horse first arrives on the property, it is assessed and placed on a recovery plan.

"The whole aim of this is to take them off this ranch and try to rehabilitate them and do something different," Tom Heck said. "We have connections with a dude ranch out in New Mexico and rodeo contacts as well."

The average weight of a healthy horse is estimated between 1,000 pounds and 1,300 pounds, depending on the breed.

Horses that come into the M.H. Ranch are typically 400 pounds underweight, have abscesses from the saddle or have

other open wounds. The recovery process can be slow.

"These horses came in from Willcox, Arizona, and lost 140 pounds during that trip," Webb said, referring to a group of three horses grazing on a bale of alfalfa. "But those 140 pounds will take several months to gain back."

Each new horse is photographed from the front, rear and both sides. Any open wounds are cleaned and treated. Then every horse is wormed, and receives a vitamin B-12 shot and equine antibiotics. Horses are then released into a 20-acre holding pasture where they have free access to grass, alfalfa hay and water. They also receive a free choice of mineral salts and molasses.

After two weeks, each horse is re-evaluated. Those horses deemed fit for turnout are released into a 13,000- to 15,000-acre pasture where they have access to grass and alfalfa.

Twice a day, the horses return to the water tank where the Heck family and their staff assess the horses' condition.

Not all horses can be saved.

Horses that die on the ranch are sent to the dead pile, at a far corner of the ranch, where other livestock that have died go, Tom Heck said.

"Horses, cattle, sheep and goats are all considered livestock," Tom Heck said. "They are not pets. So they are treated differently. Generally ranchers move them to an area that don't smell up the ranch headquarters, and their bodies are taken care of by the coyotes and nature. It all goes back to the earth."

Because of the slow recovery process, a first glance at some of the newcomers raised concerns among nearby residents

RANCH cont. on page 5A

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Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30
Mon/Thur 7:30

Journey 2 (3D) (PG)
Fri 7:00 9:00
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:00
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
Mon/Thur 7:00

Chronicle (PG-13)
Fri 7:00 9:45
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:45
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This Means War (PG-13) starts Tue, Feb. 14, Valentine's Day
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Friday, Feb. 10, the 41st day of 2012. There are 325 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 10, 1962, the Soviet Union exchanged captured American U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers for Rudolf Abel, a Soviet spy held by the United States.

On this date:

In 1763, Britain, Spain and France signed the Treaty of Paris, ending the Seven Years' War.

In 1840, Britain's Queen Victoria married Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.

In 1841, Upper Canada and Lower Canada were proclaimed united under an Act of Union passed by the British Parliament.

In 1912, Joseph Lister, the "Father of Antiseptic Surgery," died in Walmer, Kent, England, at age 84.

In 1942, the former French liner Normandie capsized in New York Harbor a day after it caught fire while being refitted for the U.S. Navy. RCA Victor presented Glenn Miller and his Orchestra with a "gold record" for their recording of "Chattanooga Choo Choo," which had sold more than 1 million copies.

In 1949, Arthur Miller's play "Death of a Salesman" opened at Broadway's Morosco Theater with Lee J. Cobb as Willy Loman.

In 1962, Republican George W. Romney announced his ultimately successful candidacy for governor of Michigan.

In 1967, the 25th Amendment to the Constitution, dealing with presidential disability and succession, was ratified as Minnesota and Nevada adopted it.

In 1968, U.S. figure skater Peggy Fleming won America's only gold medal of the Winter Olympic Games in Grenoble, France.

In 1981, eight people were killed when a fire set by a busboy broke out at the Las Vegas Hilton hotel-casino.

In 1992, boxer Mike Tyson was convicted in Indianapolis of raping Desiree Washington, a Miss Black America contestant. (Tyson served three years in prison.) Author Alex Haley died in Seattle at age 70.

In 2005, playwright Arthur Miller died in Roxbury, Conn., at age 89 on the 56th anniversary of the Broadway opening of his "Death of a Salesman."

Ten years ago: Snowboarder Kelly Clark won America's first gold at the Salt Lake City Olympics in women's halfpipe. Claudia Pechstein of Germany shattered her own world record in the 3,000-meter speedskating event, crossing the line in 3:57.70. The Western Conference defeated the Eastern Conference, 135-120, in the NBA All-Star Game. Former U.N. ambassador Vernon A. Walters died in West Palm Beach, Fla., at age 85. Convict-author Jack Henry Abbott committed suicide in his cell; he was 58.

Five years ago: Less than a month after launching his presidential bid online, Democrat Barack Obama announced his candidacy in person, telling thousands outside the Illinois state capital in Springfield, "Let us transform this nation," Obama said. Gen. David Petraeus took charge of U.S. forces in Iraq. The AFC defeated the NFC 31-28 in the Pro Bowl.

One year ago: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak refused to step down or leave the country and instead handed his powers to his vice president, stunning protesters in central Cairo who waved their shoes in contempt and shouted, "Leave, leave, leave." (Mubarak resigned the next day.)

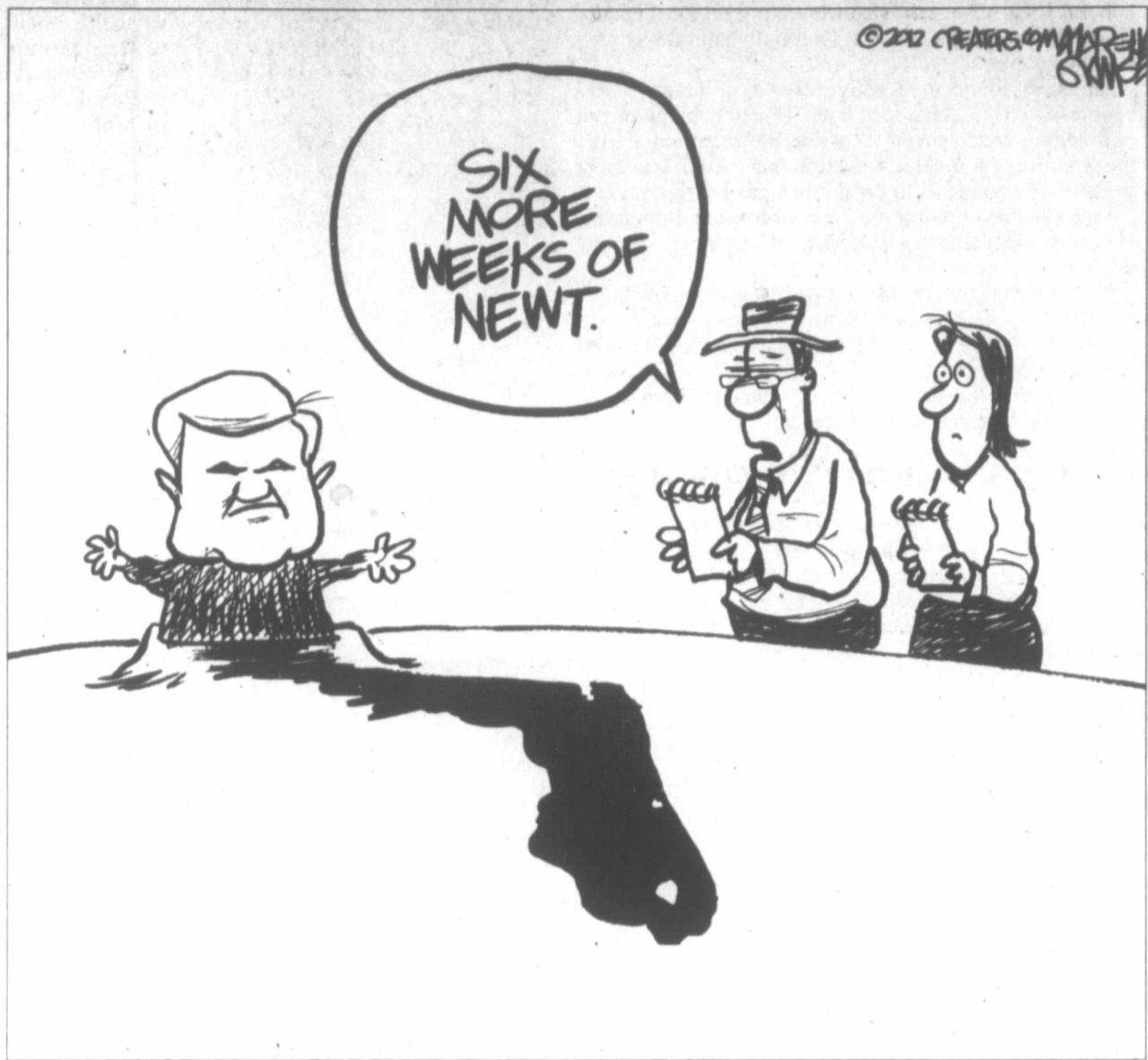
Today's Birthdays: Opera singer Leontyne Price is 85. Actor Robert Wagner is 82. Rock musician Don Wilson (The Ventures) is 79. Singer Roberta Flack is 75. Singer Jimmy Merchant (Frankie Lyman and the Teenagers) is 72. Rock musician Bob Spalding (The Ventures) is 65. Olympic gold-medal swimmer Mark Spitz is 62. Walt Disney Co. president and chief executive Robert Iger is 61. World Golf Hall of Famer Greg Norman is 57. Actress Kathleen Beller is 56. Country singer Lionel Cartwright is 52. Movie director Alexander Payne is 51. ABC News correspondent George Stephanopoulos is 51. Actress Laura Dern is 45. Country singer Dude Mowrey is 40. Actress Elizabeth Banks is 38. Pop singer Rosanna Taverz (Eden's Crush) is 35. Actress Julia Pace Mitchell is 34. Country musician Jeremy Baxter (Carolina Rain) is 32. Rock singer Eric Dill is 30. Rock musician Ben Romans (The Click Five) is 30. Actress Emma Roberts is 21. Actress Makenzie Vega is 18. Actress Chloe Grace Moretz is 15.

Thought for Today: "People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed, and redeemed; never throw out anyone." — Audrey Hepburn, Belgian-born British actress (1929-1993)

We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of *The Pampa News* or its staff.



The Perryton incident, revisited

There's a lot that's been made of the mess that unfolded in Perryton on Friday, and in the interest of putting all the cards on the table, the first thing I'd have to say is that I wasn't there.

I was at home, watching my hometown Indiana Pacers wax the Mavs.

All I know is what I've been told, what I've read, and what I've heard from folks who were there. Trusty sports guy Andrew tells me that it became quite the venomous ruckus, and even though there was no full-fledged, ridiculous riot, it's not hard to see how it could have escalated had Dustin Miller not herded his players from the scene.

Everything I've heard has laid blame squarely on the Pampa side of things, and that's certainly easy to get, especially in light of what happened on the highway afterwards. The devil's advocate in me believes that there was probably some jawing from the Pampa side, too, and given how close the game was and what it meant to the teams involved, I'm inclined to guess that I'm right in extrapolating that, too.

That, of course, is not to mitigate anything that happened, nor does it give any fans an excuse to rush the court. There's a line between yelling from the stands and stepping onto the court. It's not even a fine line; you just don't walk onto the field of play to get into a competitor's face. It's the sort of action that aggravates things to another level entirely, and that's a level no one ever wants to see. I'm told that it was a grown woman who did it, which makes it that much worse.

Like I said, I'm a Pacers fan, so I'm no stranger to what happens when fans get involved in the game. The infamous Pacers-Pistons brawl of 2004 is, admittedly, an extreme example of what can happen when adult fans take the game too seriously. Still, the lessons are equally applicable. As fans, it's important keep the game (added emphasis, here, on *game*) in perspective. The fact that an adult may have done this at a high school sporting event just makes me raise an eyebrow even higher.

I shouldn't even have to touch on the paintballing of the bus after the game. That's just asinine, juvenile, and — thank goodness it didn't turn out to be worse than it was — potentially dangerous. I certainly hope the authorities don't sleep on it.

Andrew wrote a column sharing his thoughts about the incident and received a strongly worded anonymous note about it afterwards. The note said that columns like his foster deeper anger about the incident rather than promote friendship and forgiveness. I'm going to have to come to my writer's defense here. I think that he's entirely justified



ARNIE AURELLANO

in voicing his displeasure with what happened after the final whistle was blown. We need to hold people accountable for their actions, and people who rush the court in anger and pelt moving vehicles with paintballs, deserve to be called out for it.

I do agree, though, that we can't have on blinders regarding this whole situation. While we all know how fandom in a rivalry can get, friendship and forgiveness — even across rivalry lines — shouldn't ever be at a premium. The competition should stay between the teams on the court.

On that point, it's important to note that Pampa's kids have been, from what I've observed, more than classy about this whole thing. I've been on high school teams that have been pranked by the cross-town rivals, and your first instinct is always to strike back. I've never been on a moving bus that's been nailed with pellet gun pellets or BBs or paintballs or whatever, and if you're inside the vehicle when that sort of inanity happens, I'm sure there's a lot of justifiable anger you'd have to hold back.

Still, everything I've heard and read from the kids has spoken to a group of young people handling things with maturity and a group of adults leading by example.

Can't say enough about how they've handled themselves. Great job, kids, and props to the folks showing them how to do it right. Good call by Dustin Miller, Heath Parker, and whoever else to get the kids out of there. Kudos to the parents raising their children with the right values and keeping the high school game in perspective. And a final pat on the back to Stuart Smith and the folks at the Pampa ISD for emphasizing the consequences of similar behavior to Friday at any events where Pampa plays host.

In light of what happened last week, the Perryton Herald is publishing the UIL guidelines regarding fan expectations at interscholastic competitions. I believe it's a good idea for us to do the same. Our doing so is no indictment of Pampa's own fans; on the contrary, Pampa's been one of the most hospitable away environments I've encountered in high school sports. Still, episodes like this one tend to be a good reminder for us about the need for ethics and decorum, and it's never a bad idea to have a refresher.

You stay classy, San Diego Pampa.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS

Remember that you are at the contest to support and yell for your team, and to enjoy the skill and competition not to intimidate or ridicule the other team or its fans.

Remember that school athletics are a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made.

Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people, just as you would praise a student working in the classroom.

A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.

Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.

Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups.

Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.

Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.

Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before, during, and after the game on or near the site of the event (i.e. tailgating).

Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.

Be a positive role model at events through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

Parents and spectators should be aware that the school can (and should) remove them from the premises and can prohibit them from attending future contests due to undesirable behaviors.

Game officials can ask that school administrators have unruly fans removed from a contest facility.

There is no such thing as a "right" to attend interscholastic athletics. Interscholastic athletics are considered a "privilege" and the spectator who avails themselves of it is expected to conduct himself or herself accordingly.

Keep in mind that you are a guest of the school, and that while winning is certainly an admirable goal, it is hollow if it comes at the expense of morals, ethics, and just plain common sense.

The school is responsible for the behavior of their spectators. The school district can be and will be punished for actions of patrons in violation of UIL standards and rules.

Arnie Aurellano is the editor of *The Pampa News*. He can be reached online at editor@thepampanews.com

Installing a new shower enclosure

Dear Pat: I am planning to remodel my bathroom. It has a shower, and I am limited on space, but my budget is open. What type of shower enclosure is best for a luxurious look and to make the room seem larger? — Cathy E

Dear Cathy: Remodeling a bathroom is usually full of compromises between wish lists and budgets, so this will be fun with an open budget. The three key items that will influence the style and decor of your new bathroom are the sink, floor/wall covering and shower enclosure, and they are all interrelated.

In order to make your bathroom appear larger than it actually is, you will want to select smaller fixtures, light colors and see-through partitions. Definitely select a pedestal-style sink so the bottom is open and you can see past it. Add a small recessed medicine cabinet, but you will have to store most items in another closet or cabinet outside the bathroom.

Decorative ceramic tile would be my preferred wall and floor finish if my budget were open. There are some very attractive European designs that will work well for both the room and the shower area. Using darker tile accents will provide contrast without making the bathroom appear smaller and dark. Consider installing a vented skylight tube for the shower area for natural light.

All-glass shower enclosures are very popular today, and installing one would be ideal for your smaller bathroom. They are completely see-through for openness. Also, it would be a shame to have your beautiful new tile walls hidden behind some standard sliding shower doors with obscure glass.

All-glass enclosures or doors also have many practical advantages. If you have ever tried to keep the frame and tracks clean and mildew free on standard bypass doors, you will appreciate the easy cleaning features of the new doors. With no frame or track, you just run a squeegee over the glass when you are finished showering to wipe off the water.

Good-quality glass shower enclosures use 3/8- or 1/2-inch-

HOME HOW-TO

thick glass, so they can be very heavy. The floor around the shower must be strong enough to handle the weight. They are not recommended for doors on fiberglass showers for this reason.

Most home center stores should be able to order a custom-size enclosure, for you or contact these manufacturers for names of local retail outlets: Artistcraft Group (866) 789-3338 and Basco (866) 686-5435.

If you are planning to rearrange the layout of your shower in the bathroom, you will have many options with a complete glass shower enclosure. A neo-angle design is particularly attractive and uses minimal floor area. Many standard

rectangular shapes are also available with various door options.

Hardware and trim finish options include brass, chrome, satin brass, brushed nickel and gold plating. These parts usually have a several-year warranty, and the heavy glass includes a lifetime warranty. The hardware is often brass-based, so clean it gently for a lasting finish.

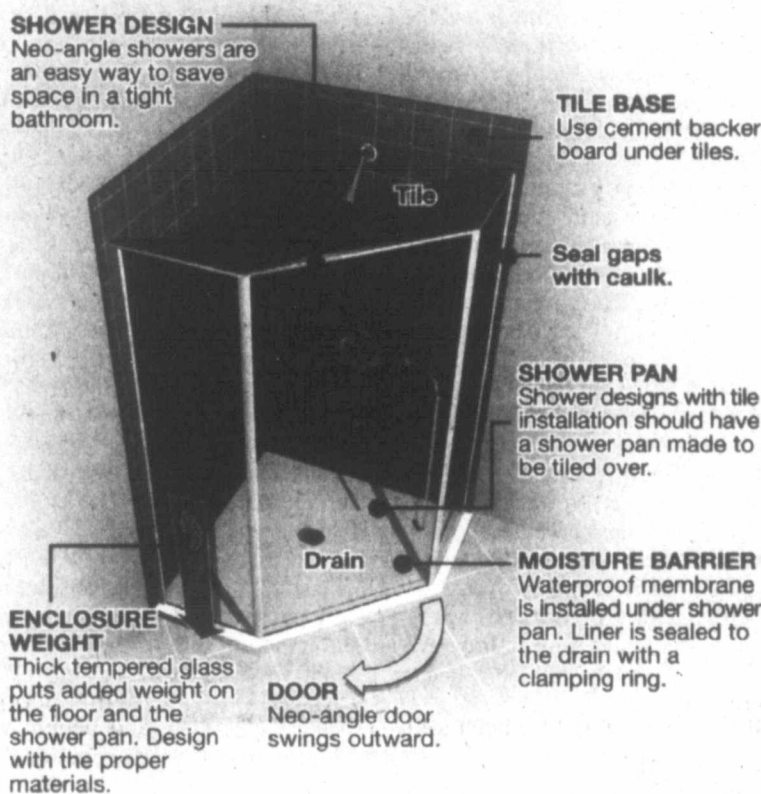
The doors on these enclosures require a small gap for clearance when they open. This may allow a small amount of water to escape onto the tile floor which should not be a problem. Flexible vinyl door seals are available, but they may detract from the open appearance. If you install a steam generator in the shower, door seals will be required.

Send your questions to Here's How, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com.

HOME HOW-TO

Shower Update

Updating your shower is a smart investment that adds value to your home. Tempered-glass shower enclosures are permanent and easy to clean, and their transparency makes a bathroom appear larger.



Creators.com/Bob Kast

States, banks reach landmark settlement

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. states reached a landmark \$25 billion deal Thursday with the nation's biggest mortgage lenders over foreclosure abuses that occurred after the housing bubble burst.

The deal requires five of the largest banks to reduce loans for about 1 million households at risk of foreclosure. The lenders will also send checks of \$2,000 to about 750,000 Americans who were improperly foreclosed upon. The banks will have three years to fulfill the terms of the deal.

It's the biggest settlement involving a single industry since a 1998 multistate tobacco deal.

Federal and state officials announced at a news conference that 49 states had joined the settlement. Oklahoma announced a separate deal with the five banks.

The settlement ends a painful chapter that emerged from the financial crisis, when home values sank and millions edged toward foreclosure. Many companies processed foreclosures without verifying documents. Some employees signed papers they hadn't read or used fake signatures to speed foreclosures — an action known as robo-signing.

Under the deal, the states said they won't pursue civil charges related to these types of abuses. Homeowners can still sue lenders in civil court on their own, and federal and state authorities can pursue criminal charges.

"There were many small wrongs that were done here," said U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan. "This does not resolve everything. We will be aggressive about going after claims elsewhere."

Reducing loan principal will help some homeowners who are current on their payments but are "underwater," meaning they owe more than their homes are worth.

But consumer advocates and housing activists said the deal is flawed because it covers only a fraction of at-risk homeowners. Critics note that the settlement will apply only to privately held mortgages issued from 2008 through 2011.

Banks own about half of all U.S. mortgages — roughly 30 million loans. Those owned by mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are not covered by the deal.

"The deal announced today is too small," said Pico National Network, a faith-based group that is active on housing issues. "It falls far short of providing real justice for homeowners and American families."

Economists also cited the size of the deal: Some said it was hardly enough to have much impact on the troubled housing market.

The settlement will be overseen by Joseph A. Smith Jr., North Carolina's banking commissioner. Lenders that violate the deal could face \$1 million penalties per violation and up to \$5 million for repeat violators.

About \$10 billion of the settlement total will be used to reduce mortgage payments for underwater homeowners. Paul Diggle, an economist at Capital Economics, said that's a "drop in the ocean," considering that 11 million borrowers are underwater "to the tune of \$700 billion."

Mark Vitner, a senior economist at Wells Fargo Securities, said the settlement helps the housing market in the long run because it allows banks to proceed with millions of foreclosures that have been stalled. Many lenders have refrained from foreclosing on homes as they awaited the settlement.

"We've got a lot of issues to work our way through in the housing market," Vitner said. "What this settlement does is allow that process to get started."

Bank of America will pay the most to borrowers as part of the deal — nearly \$8.6 billion. Wells Fargo will pay about \$4.3 billion, JPMorgan Chase roughly \$4.2 billion. Citigroup will pay about \$1.8 billion and Ally Financial will pay \$200 million. Those totals do not include \$5.5 billion that the banks will reimburse federal and state governments for money spent on improper foreclosures.

The deal also ends a separate investigation into Bank of America and Countrywide for inflating appraisals of loans from 2003 through most of 2009. Bank of America acquired Countrywide in 2008.

Tax

Bailey expects next year's budget to include higher expectations for the city's sales tax revenue.

"So far we're over budget, and later on in the year, we may determine that we think we're going to finish off the year quite a bit above budget," she said. "But typi-

cally, this early in the year, we don't rely on it. We just wait and see what happens. Maybe about June, if things are still going well, we may designate to allow some departments in the city to spend some money based on this. We may adjust our budget based on the sales tax."

cont. from page 1A

Drive

Executive Director of CASA. "They may pack all of their belongings in a plastic trash bag. We thought this

was one thing we could do to help them have a sense of normalcy during their move."

Watts plans to make a storage room available for CPS workers or CASA volunteers to pick up the luggage and pass it along to foster children.

"A lot of us have old luggage laying around that we won't use again or are planning to replace with new luggage," said Watts. "We encourage anyone in the community who wants to get involved to stop by and give their luggage a new purpose."

Anyone interested in donating luggage, duffel bags or money to go towards luggage may drop their donations off at the CASA office at 315 North Ballard in Pampa or call 806-669-7638 for more information.

cont. from page 1A

Ranch

cont. from page 1A

who reported horses being malnourished in January. This spurred an animal-abuse investigation against the ranch.

Further evaluation by the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office, Webb and El Paso veterinarian Jose Ramos showed that the horses had sufficient food and water, and closed the case.

"There are about seven bands of horses out here, and they look pretty darn good," Ramos said. "The whole idea is to get them from a negative energy balance to a positive energy balance."

Ramos said the ranch had a good water and food supply.

"The problem now is people are coming in and leaving buckets of water for them out by the road," Ramos said. "They think they are doing good, but really they aren't. Because if a horse sees there is water there one day, they will go back the next, seeking water from that area again and ignore the watering trough, and that impedes on their recovery."

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Beef prices expected to increase

LUBBOCK (AP) — The smallest cattle herd since the 1950s likely will mean higher beef prices at the supermarket for the next two years.

Experts said beef prices could climb as much as 10 percent a year in 2012 and 2013, and the increase could be even greater if demand from other countries increases.

Those higher prices would follow steady increases that have seen the average retail cost of a pound of hamburger rise 23 percent, from \$2.38 in December 2010 to \$2.92 last December, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Last month the USDA reported the U.S. herd had declined to 90.8 million cattle, 2 percent less than the previous year and the lowest inventory since 1952, when there were 88.1 million.

"We're producing less beef so prices are going to go up," Texas AgriLife Extension Service livestock economist David Anderson said.

Ranchers have sold more of their cattle in recent years to meet increased costs for feed, fuel and other expenses. The soaring feed costs come amid heightened demand for corn to produce ethanol and to meet a growing export market.

The situation has been worst in Texas, the nation's leading cattle producer, and other parts of the southern plains and southwest, where a record drought caused pastures to wither, leaving ranchers with few options but to sell their cattle or pay top-dollar for feed.

There are 1.4 million fewer cattle — a record 660,000 of those cows — in Texas this year compared with the previous year, accounting for about 74 percent of the drop in numbers nationally. The animals were either moved to another state or were slaughtered.

Texas still leads the nation with 11.9 million head of

cattle and calves, an 11 percent drop from last January. Cattle numbers plunged 12 percent in Oklahoma, to 4.5 million head, and in New Mexico by 10 percent, to 1.39 million head.

While cattle numbers dropped in those states, they have climbed elsewhere, especially in the Northern Plains where more rain led to plentiful pastureland.

Even in the southwest, there has been some good news, as the USDA reports that producers held onto more heifers, or young cows, than some expected. The January report showed a 1 percent increase over last year's number of heifers retained.

That could put the industry in position to grow the herd more quickly.

Until the cattle supply increases, consumers will see higher prices, said Lane Broadbent, a livestock analyst with KIS Futures in Oklahoma City.

Broadbent said worldwide demand for U.S. beef also could increase in the next couple of years, causing prices to stay steady or rise even if the herd size grows as expected.

"An era of cheap meat might not happen for another two to three years," Broadbent said. "It's basically supply and demand, and this USDA report showed that our supplies are going to increase."

USDA livestock analyst Shayle Shagam said producers who see good prices at auction might still sell off their heifers. Ranchers must weigh whether they'll come out ahead by selling those heifers in coming months or hang onto them and sell the calves from the animals.

"There's potential for increased retention," Shagam said. "How that evolves during the year will depend on these producer decisions."

The cattle industry has for decades gone through cycles of expansion and contraction. The U.S. herd typically grows for about 10 years before supplies increase to a point where cattle and beef prices begin to drop. That's when ranchers begin to sell off their animals and the contraction begins.

"This is free enterprise," Texas AgriLife Extension Service economist Stephen Amosson said. "Everything goes to the bottom line. If they'd be making a bunch of money they would have been expanding before this."

Starting in the 1980s and through the 1990s the cycles were influenced by a shift in demand, which brought about big declines in cattle numbers. During that time people began to eat more chicken when the meat started showing up as nuggets, wings and in forms other than whole chickens, Anderson, the economist, said.

The USDA projects per capita beef consumption will drop to 55.7 pounds in 2013 before climbing to 58.9 pounds in 2020. Meanwhile per capita consumption of chicken was forecast to increase throughout the decade, with 2020 showing 91.5 pounds.

Richard Thorpe, a rancher in Winters, about 200 miles southwest of Fort Worth, culled more than 75 percent of his 1,000-head herd because of drought. He plans to slowly rebuild with the animals he kept, and is optimistic now that the long drought is finally over.

"We've kept the youngest, best and most fertile," said Winters. "We have a lot of hope we are through with this horrible drought. What makes it scary to us is we have to have spring grass."

Oklahoma gets ed waiver from Obama

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Oklahoma's top education official reacted with glee Thursday with the announcement that the state is one of 10 states being granted a waiver from the federal No Child Left Behind law that requires students be proficient in reading and math by 2014 — but focused on getting students to "just pass the tests."

"I'm pretty excited, I'll tell you that. I'm a happy camper," State School Superintendent Janet Barresi told The Associated Press.

"In order to be successful under the old system you focused on getting the students to just pass the tests," Barresi said. "The schools were forced to do that" in order to show annual progress or face the possibility of penalties ranging from busing students to higher-performing schools, offering tutoring and replacing staff.

Barresi said the waiver will allow teachers to focus on individual children, rather than teaching to a test.

The waiver provides flexibility to the states in instructional programs, provided a viable alternative is offered showing that schools are preparing students for college and careers, setting new targets for improving achievement among all students, developing teacher and principal evaluation systems, reward the best performing schools and focus help on the ones doing the worst.

Oklahoma's plan includes testing of third- through seventh-grade students in various subjects and requiring students, before being allowed to graduate, to pass end-of-instruction tests in Algebra I and English II, and passing at least two other tests from a list that includes Algebra II, English III, biology, geometry or U.S. history.

The state will also end social promotion of students after third grade and will grade the performance of individual schools on an A-through-F scale.

Mark Plum, whose 17-year-old daughter is a high school junior, welcomed the waiver, saying it gives local districts more control of their schools and that he does not believe it weakens educational standards.

"I think it would probably actually increase them by allowing teachers, local authorities and everything, to make decisions directly to those that benefit the kids the best," Plum said.

"More than anything, about getting the federal government out of local and state issues."

Barresi said the waiver will not lead to a lessening of the state's standards.

"Absolutely not. This is not a rollback of accountability. This is actually developing a new system that is aligned with all the work we're doing in education reform in Oklahoma," she said.

"I support No Child Left Behind, but the system that we were using, we know that we can do it better."

State needs power, top official warns

AUSTIN (AP) — The private companies that generate electricity in Texas are not building enough new capacity to meet the state's future needs, top officials told lawmakers Thursday.

"The basic problem that we see at this time is that generators are not building generation capacity sufficient to meet the ever increasing demand of a growing Texas," Donna Nelson, the chairwoman of the Public Utilities Commission, told the Texas House State Affairs Committee.

Low natural gas prices that discourage new construction as well as difficulty getting financing for new projects are the main culprits, she added.

Texas has deregulated its electricity market so that power companies buy electricity from private generators when it's needed and pay only for what they use. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas aims to keep 13.86 percent excess capacity as a reserve to prevent blackouts when demand spikes.

Tripp Doggett, the council's CEO, told lawmakers that from 2013 onward, the state will not have enough reserve capacity available unless companies start building more power plants. Making matters worse are last summer's extremely hot summer which set records for demand, and the ongoing drought, which reduces the needed water flow to power plants.

"If we were to experience an identical summer to last summer ... we would still have a very tight summer," Doggett said. "We would have to have conservation."

Nelson and Doggett told lawmakers that they are examining how to encourage construction of new power plants by updating market rules. The state is also fighting new federal air pollution rules that could force older power plants in Texas to shut down or curtail generation.

Both officials said they are also encouraging greater conservation. Nelson said the commission would begin a campaign to conserve electricity earlier this year, but she said the state needed to be careful not to scare away businesses looking to move to Texas by leading them to believe the state has an electricity shortage.

Rep. Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville, said he was concerned the shortfall was not predicted earlier. "It stuns me that we couldn't have forecast this or anticipated it," he said. "You're telling me this is a perfect storm of events that surprised everyone."

Doggett said that the main problem is that power plant developers have unexpectedly cut back on their plans for new projects because low gas prices lead to low profits. He also said that the failure of Congress to renew a tax credit for wind energy has discouraged investment in new wind farms.

State dept. cleared in Keystone review

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department's internal watchdog has cleared the agency of any impropriety in its review of a permit for a controversial pipeline that that would carry Canadian oil across the continental United States.

In a report released to Congress on Thursday, the department's inspector general said it found no evidence that State Department employees were improperly influenced by proponents of the Keystone XL pipeline, including the applicant TransCanada.

Opponents of the pipeline, which was ultimately rejected by President Barack Obama after a bitter political battle with congressional Republicans, had alleged that TransCanada had an inappropriately cozy relationship with some State Department employees conducting the review, which included an environmental impact statement.

The inspector general "determined that the department did not violate its role as an unbiased oversight agency," the report said.

It "found no evidence that communications between department officials, TransCanada, the Canadian government, proponents, and opponents of Keystone XL deviated from the department's obligations under federal law," it said. "Specifically, no records existed showing that department officials had made inappropriate commitments on behalf of the department to TransCanada or to the Canadian Government."

The report said the department had fully complied with its responsibilities in conducting the review and had incorporated relevant concerns from other federal agencies but expressed concern that its limited resources and expertise impacted the process.

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may occur 30 to 50 years after exposure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial and construction workers, along with their families (second hand exposure) are among those at risk for mesothelioma, lung cancer or gastro cancer (throat, stomach, colon). Call us for professional insight.

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Richard A. Dodd, L.C.
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comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



2-10
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"I saw a snowflake! Where's my sled?"

Non Sequitur



Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012:

This year your ability to empathize and comprehend others emerges. In a sense, you are a PI of the motives of others, often walking in their footsteps. You are willing to be more flexible than in the past. Your family and home also become more significant. Your mind often drifts to the past. If you are single, your ability to relate is enhanced. At the same time, you discover you are more discriminating. After June 2012, a special person could star in your life. If you are attached, the two of you relate more easily than in the past. Fun surrounds planning a trip or a happening as a duo. LIBRA understands you well.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You feel pressure building with someone you respect and look up to. This person seems to have continuously changing demands. Catch up on an older person's news and clear out any pending responsibilities. Make late-afternoon plans. Tonight: So many invitations.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ Complete a project -- personal or otherwise -- that you have had on the back burner. You feel that you can make plans for a long-deserved getaway once you are done. For now, join friends and/or family at a gathering. Tonight: Make it stress-free.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Someone might rain on your parade, but certainly not for long. You understand the issue and might try to resolve it -- if the other party is ready. Plan on spending the day with a loved one, indulging him or her in one of his or her favorite pastimes. Tonight: And the party goes on.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Stay centered, even if you find others highly critical and difficult. You might wonder why you are putting up with this behavior. That is an excellent question! Be where you want to be with the people you would like to be with. Tonight: Throw a spontaneous get-together.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might be far more wordy than you realize. You could be processing a lot without realizing it. Focus on each person, each conversation. In the long run, the results will only be better. Avoid a control game at all costs. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You could be exhausted by everything that is going on with a friend or loved one. Pull back some and take better care of yourself. Whether this might be going on a playful adventure, getting a massage or anything else that might please you makes no difference. Tonight: Remain nonreactive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You beam, and others respond. Your ability to sort through a problem -- probably impacting your home life -- could make a big difference. Listen to a friend and what really might be motivating him or her. Willingly revise your plans. Tonight: All smiles.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might want to distance yourself from the source of a control game or problem. You don't need to see eye to eye with this person. You simply need to not play. Your honesty and self-discipline will pay off for you. Tonight: Do for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Maintain a high profile when it comes to your money and how you spend it. Someone might try to coerce you into spending more than you want or heading in a different direction. You know what you want. Follow through on just that. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might be causing yourself more problems than need be, especially if you are trying to make sure your message is heard. Remember that you cannot change anyone. The best plan would be to accept the person as he or she is. Tonight: A must appearance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You don't need to share what you might be thinking with a special person. In fact, it might be a total mistake to do just that. Stay present with this individual. Share more of your authentic self. A trip could be planned for the near future. Tonight: Try a new place or different cuisine.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You are emotional, but you are also quite capable of relating effectively, if you so choose. A friend might mean well but cannot help but complicate an existing matter. Try to keep your interactions with this person simple, for both of your sakes! Tonight: Add more romance into your life.

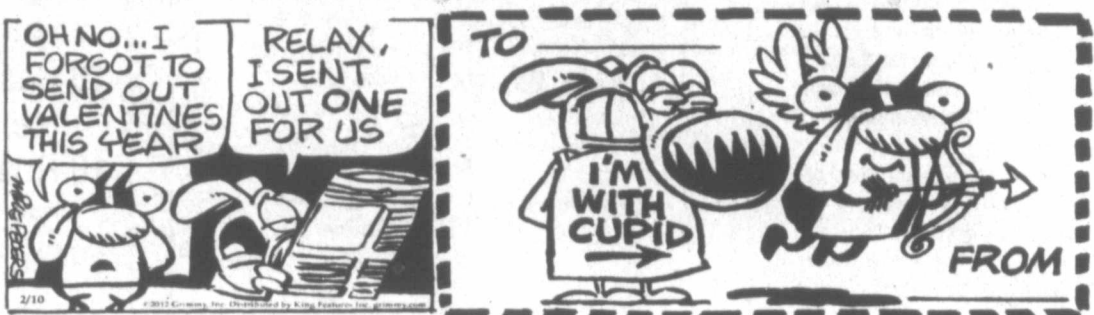
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



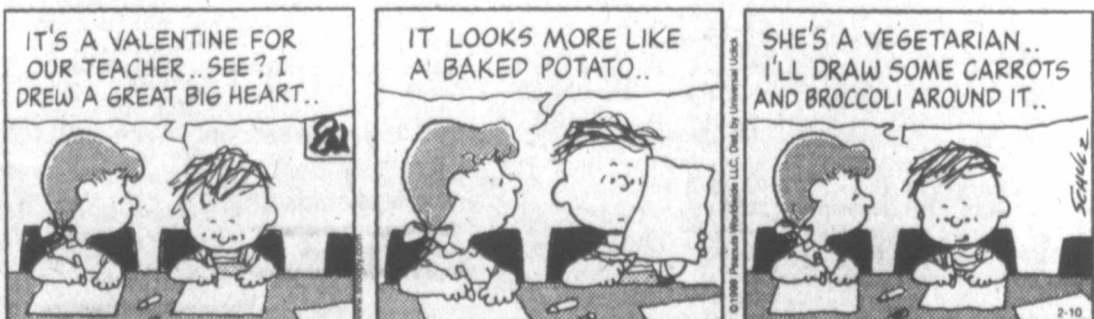
Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie





Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: There is an ongoing issue between my husband and me. It's his disregard for my personal safety. Our large city is known for its heavy, fast traffic and impatient drivers. "Jon" is a good driver. He likes to drive in the left (passing) lane on the highway or tollway, usually about five miles above the posted speed limit.

This is considered too slow for many drivers, who become impatient and aggressive having to be behind us in the fast lane. They flash their headlights and tailgate us, trying to get him to move over into the right lane so they can pass, but Jon refuses to yield. If they start to pass us on the right, he will speed up and race them so they can't get ahead of him. He says he's "teaching them a lesson."

I have told my husband repeatedly that these games are dangerous and they scare me. Not only could we get into an accident, but we could get into an ugly confrontation or worse. I am terrified in these situations and he knows it, but he continues. I try to drive as often as possible, but I can't see as well at night as I used to, so Jon drives at night or when we're going long distances. With the price of gas and considering the inconvenience and inefficiency, it doesn't make sense to go in separate cars. Do you have any suggestions? — ON A COLLISION COURSE IN HOUSTON

DEAR ON A COLLISION COURSE: Jon should be told that impeding the flow of traffic is a very dangerous practice. His childish behavior could incite road rage, and it is everyone's responsibility to minimize instances in which road rage can occur.

Contact the Department of Public Safety to get a copy of the Texas Drivers Handbook. That way you can show Jon in black and white that his behavior is not only wrong but dangerous. While some husbands are not receptive to a wife's comments about their driving, most will listen to what a state trooper has to say about good driving practices versus bad ones. Let's hope it doesn't come to that.

And one more word of advice: Continue being the driver as often as possible. Your lives could depend on it.

DEAR ABBY: I was discussing with my 26-year-old daughter how parents punish their kids, when suddenly she told me that she hated that I would make her write "lines" when she was growing up. She mentioned that one day I made her do it when her friend was there to play with her. I felt really bad about this and wonder why she is bringing this up now. — WONDERING

DOWN SOUTH
DEAR WONDERING: It came up now because punishment was the topic of conversation, and she flashed back on how humiliating it was to have been punished in front of a friend. Clearly it made an impact — and it would be interesting to know if the infraction was repeated after that.

BANANAGRAMS!

Use the 15 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. To get you started, a few tiles from the bunch have been placed, and the BANANA BITES provide hints. Reuse the 15 tiles in the bunch for each grid.

LEVEL

M G E R E T G
I A N P E E V C

BANANA BITE: One word is a type of gathering.

M E G E T
BANANA BITE: One word means "say hello."

Yesterday's Answer: ANNEX, HYENAS, GRAVY, GORGON; THANK, TIPTOP

2-10

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

1	7	4	2	5	8	3	9	6
5	3	6	9	1	7	8	4	2
8	2	9	4	3	6	5	1	7
6	9	8	3	4	2	1	7	5
7	1	5	8	6	9	4	2	3
2	4	3	1	7	5	6	8	9
9	5	2	6	8	4	7	3	1
4	6	1	7	2	3	9	5	8
3	8	7	5	9	1	2	6	4

5		1		4				
				6		3	7	
			8		9			
		1	7	6				
					7			
	9		8				6	
1	6							4
7								9
8		4	3					

Level: Beginner

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 40 Perfect
 - 1 "Twilight" werewolf
 - 6 Duel count
 - 11 Conductor Seiji
 - 12 In the area
 - 13 Cavalry weapon
 - 14 So out, it's in
 - 15 Yale student
 - 16 Baseball's Mel
 - 18 Road rescue
 - 19 Signing need
 - 20 Greek letters
 - 21 Clumsy fellow
 - 22 Occur
 - 24 Getting on
 - 25 Give a new name to
 - 27 Come together
 - 29 Rough homes
 - 32 Cart puller
 - 33 Bind up
 - 34 Bowler, e.g.
 - 35 Machines with RAM
 - 36 Method
 - 37 Historic time
 - 38 Jeweler's aid
- DOWN**
- 1 Nativity figure
 - 2 Honey-suckle's cousin
 - 3 Cockpit gauge reading
 - 4 Have debts
 - 5 His title is "Sir"
 - 6 Divides
 - 7 Homer's dad
 - 8 Dairy product
 - 9 Atlas section
 - 10 Put away
 - 17 Libya neighbor
 - 23 Sulky state
 - 24 Copying
 - 26 Golfer's nervousness
 - 27 Shade trees
 - 28 Chaperone
 - 30 Dojo activity
 - 31 Less fresh
 - 33 Annoying fellow
 - 39 "Lenore" writer
 - 41 Dapper fellow

PASTA	TOTUP	
OCTET	OBESE	
DEALT	RENEW	
	GLASSY	
SUE	CHO	TAN
ANNIKA	ERIE	
WHAT	SMYNAME	
TIMS	PADDED	
OPE	FOR	EDS
	WOODEN	
RELAX	APACE	
AROSE	REMUS	
PATHS	MEETS	

Yesterday's answer

- 8 Dairy product
- 9 Atlas section
- 10 Put away
- 17 Libya neighbor
- 23 Sulky state
- 24 Copying
- 26 Golfer's nervousness
- 27 Shade trees
- 28 Chaperone
- 30 Dojo activity
- 31 Less fresh
- 33 Annoying fellow
- 39 "Lenore" writer
- 41 Dapper fellow

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11							12			
13								14		
15				16	17				18	
19				20					21	
22			23					24		
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27	28					29			30	31
32				33					34	
35				36					37	
38			39				40	41		
42								43		
44								45		

2-10

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<p>1 Public Notice</p> <p>NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) CONTRACTS</p> <p>Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TXDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.</p> <p>CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE / BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)</p> <p>Dist/Div: Amarillo Contract 6239-82-001 for FULL DEPTH CONCRETE REPAIR in GRAY County will be opened on March 21, 2012 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$296,000.00. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TXDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TXDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TXDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.</p> <p>State Office Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office(s)</p>	<p>1 Public Notice</p> <p>Amarillo District Engineer 5715 Canyon Dr Amarillo, Texas 79105-2708</p> <p>Phone: 806-356-3283</p> <p>Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.</p> <p>Feb. 10, 12, 2012</p>	<p>14d Carpentry</p> <p>CUSTOM Building & Remodeling. New Homes & Additions. Shawn Deaver Const., 806-662-2977.</p>	<p>14h Gen. Serv.</p> <p>COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.</p>	<p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>NOTICE</p> <p>Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.</p>	<p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>TRUCK DRIVER/ LOCAL FLATBED NEEDED</p> <p>Home every night. CDL & drug testing required. Applications may be picked up at 100 N. Florida St, Borger, TX</p> <p>ASPLUNDH Tree Expert Co., is seeking Trimmers to work in the Texas Panhandle. Qualified applicants must have a valid D.L. and be able to pass a back ground check. Starting pay \$13.33. (Full-Time/Year-Round Employment) In order to be considered an applicant, you must complete a pre employment application. Interested applicants should contact Truman Beck at (806) 544-6894 between 8 am & 5 pm Monday thru Friday. DRUG FREE WORKPLACE BOE:AA-M/F/V/D</p>	<p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>Mac Supply Inc. Electrical Contractors</p> <p>We are seeking an experienced individual in office management and accounting bookkeeping. Offering competitive salary & great benefits. Please send resume to P.O. Box 1157, Pampa, TX 79066 or email to: service@macsupplyinc.net</p>	<p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>WHEELER Nursing & Rehabilitation: Full-time dietary aide. Competitive pay. Apply in person, 1000 S. Kiowa, Wheeler, Tx.</p> <p>WHEELER Nursing & Rehabilitation: Nurse Aide positions. Will train & certify. Apply in person, 1000 S. Kiowa, Wheeler, Tx.</p> <p>HB Rentals, A Superior Energy Services company, is the world's premier supplier of off-shore and onshore housing and related equipment for the oil and gas industry. We are currently looking for CDL Drivers and Field Service Technicians to join our team in Canadian. For more information, go to superiorenergy.com/careers or call 866-771-4490.</p>	
<p>5 Special Notices</p> <p>ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.</p>	<p>13 Bus. Opp.</p> <p>HAVE large Pool Hall for lease. Great downtown location. Call for details, 665-1875.</p>	<p>14e Carpet Serv.</p> <p>NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.</p>	<p>14s Plumbing</p> <p>JACK'S Plumbing 715 W. Foster 665-7115</p>	<p>14w Air Cond/Heat</p> <p>BROWNING'S Heating & Air and Refrigeration Specialists since 1964!! 665-1212.</p>	<p>19 Situations</p> <p>WILL clean houses or businesses. Have references. 662-5190.</p>	<p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>LET M&S help you w/ your concrete needs. Free Est. Doc or Mike 669-6990, 664-2009</p>	<p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>NATURAL Gas Compressor Mechanic needed. Exp. preferred but not necessary. Good driving record and drug test req. Competitive pay & benefits. Fax resume to 888-812-4114, Attn: Whitney Davis, email whitney@fogistix.com or mail to P.O. Box 501, Pampa, TX 79066. Call 806-669-7499 for application.</p>	<p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>PART-TIME Secretary / Bookkeeper. Knowledge of Wolfepak software beneficial. Call 806-665-0627, lv msg.</p>

21 Help Wanted

COMING SOON MOJO'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL!! Now taking applications for cooks, waitresses, bartenders & dishwashers. Apply in person, 113 S. Cuyler, 9am-1pm. Mon thru Fri.

FULL time position includes health insurance. Successful applicant will maintain grounds, light plumbing duties, welding, etc. Applicant must have experience working with horses and cattle and have a good driving record. Bring resume or come by Gray County Veterinary Clinic to fill out an application.

21 Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED DIESEL MECHANIC
Must pass drug test. Salary depends on experience. Apply in person. No Phone Calls Please.
Eugene Well Service
129 S. Price Rd.
Pampa, TX

PAMPA NURSING CENTER
has an openings for all positions. Applicants must be able to handle a fast paced schedule and be able to work weekends and nights as needed. Please apply in person at
1321 W. Kentucky
Pampa, TX

21 Help Wanted

MCLEAN ISD is seeking an individual to fill the position of Business Manager for the district. The preferred requirements for this position are experience and knowledge in school business, finance, and TeXIS software. Applications are available by contacting **McLean ISD Business Office 806-779-2301 or PO Box 90, McLean, TX 79057.** Send applications and resumes to the address above. Contact **Harald Hill 806-779-2301** for more info.

McLean ISD does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, military status, genetic information or any other basis prohibited by law. Additionally, the district does not discriminate against an employee or applicant who acts to oppose such discrimination or participate in the investigation of a complaint related to a discriminatory employment practice. Employment decisions will be made on the basis of each applicant's job qualifications, experience and abilities.

21 Help Wanted

P-T Painter needed for 150 unit apt. community. Apply 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149

HSE SPECIALIST

Duties are to promote a safe and healthful workplace, coordinate aspect of the HSE management system while maintaining compliance with federal, state, local, and company requirements. Able to meet ATF, DOT requirements. OSHA 511 and EMT certifications will be required at a future point. Some travel required. 5 years experience preferred. High School diploma or GED. Pre-employment physical exam / drug screen, background check required. Competitive wage and benefit pkg including 401K. EOE. Contact: **Hunting Titan 806/665/3781 hr@titanspecialties.com 11785 Hwy 152 Pampa, TX 79065**

Mill-Feeding Hand: McLean Feed Yard is looking for goal-oriented individuals. Salary is dependent upon previous experience & referrals. All interested people should apply at the feedyard, 4 mi. south of McLean on Co. Rd. 273. McLean Feedyard offers a competitive salary & insurance for all employees.

21 Help Wanted

MAINTENANCE Man needed for Gwendolen Apts. Must have own tools & transportation. Apply at 800 N. Nelson.

PART time help needed. Julie's Hallmark, 125 W. Kingsmill, Pampa.

NEED experienced roustabout, back hoe operator, cdl driver for belly dumps & oilfield winch truck driver. Call 806-273-2738.

49 Pools/Hot Tubs

DEMO / 3 PERSON SPA W/ WARRANTY. MAKE OFFER. Morgan Spa, 806-358-9659

69 Misc.

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

WASHER, dryer, table, chairs, refig, stove, rockers, china cabinets, freezer, etc. 662-7557

QUEEN or Full Mattress Sets \$246, Twin \$146. New sets. Sale Price Red Barn, 1424 S. Barnes, 665-2767.

AMERICAN SELF STORAGE, 2500 N. HOBART PAMPA, TX AUCTION Wed. Feb. 15, 1pm. Sell by Complete Unit Only Household & Misc. #A030 Martinez #B058 McKinney

69 Misc.

FOR Sale good used lift chair. Call 669-2129.

FOR Sale: Refrigerator, Sofa Sleeper, Bowflex exercise machine. Call 669-7840.

80 Pets & Suppl.

FOR ADOPTION Siamese, Calico, Orange, Tabby, Gray. Spayed / Neutered & shots. Call 665-4901 lv. msg.

FREE to good home 1 male, 1 female adult dogs. Call after 3pm, 663-9436, 440-4808.

FREE to good home 2 male adult cats, 1 neutered, declawed. Call after 3pm 663-9436, 440-4808.

89 Wanted To Buy

NEED Money Now? We will give you top \$5 for your house. Call us today, 665-1875

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ROOM For Rent, \$100 wk, all bills paid incl. cable. Private entrance. 806-661-8508

96 Unfurn. Apts.
APTS. Houses Duplexes. K&B Properties. Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 669-4386

MINUTES from downtown-efficiencies. Short term leases avail. 806-665-4274.

1 and 2 bdr. avail. now at the Gwendolen Apts. Largest square footage in Pampa. 665-1875

NO transportation, not a problem. These large 1 bdr. apts. w/ appliances, are in walking distance to everything you need. 665-4274.

SCHNEIDER Apartments. Call for special rates. Short term lease. Business people welcome. 665-0415

98 Unfurn. Houses

HAMPTON VILLAGES AVAILABLE NOW!! Rush In... Won't last long!! 3 Bdrs & 4 Bdrs (Income Qualifications Apply) Application Fee Waived and Security Deposit in 2 payments if you apply and are approved
1507 Alcock 806-440-0054

FSBO 123 Walnut Dr 2246 s.f. Beautiful lrg corner lot, 4/2/5/4. Updated 806-665-3524



98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK up rental list, in the Black Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

2&3 bdr. houses, nice, neat & clean. Starting \$525. 806-662-0620

2 bedroom, 608 Reid. Call 662-1394 or check at 612 Reid.

LEASE X nice 2541 Mary Ellen 3/2/2, built-ins, deck, fenced. \$950 mo. plus dep. 663-2867

907 Twiford, 2 bdr, 1 ba. house + additional living quarters in back yard. Washer, dryer, cookstove. \$600 mo, \$250 dep. 662-6798

99 Stor. Bldgs.

TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

LAST CHANCE! ONLY 7 left! SCRATCH & DENT MORGAN BUILDINGS. 8x10', 10x12, 12x16. MAKE OFFER! 806-358-4559

102 Bus. Rental

DOWNTOWN office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

FOR Rent 1541 N. Hobart, Prime retail, 3,000 sq. ft. Call 595-0234.

CANADIAN, TX Office Building For Lease. 800 sq. ft., open floor plan, HCAC, break area. 806-217-0465, evenings 806-323-5709.

103 Homes For Sale

3 bdr, 2 bath, brick, 2800 sq. ft. living, attached 2 car garage, large living room, den with fireplace, large sun room, small basement, privacy fenced yard, brick patio, large fruit & nut bearing trees @ 4th St. at Byrd in Skellytown for \$105,000. Call 806-874-3239 or 806-678-4900.

FOR Sale 2004 Nissan Pathfinder. Copper Bronze color, 4 door, new windshield, good tires, automatic, 56K, 6 disk cd changer, Bose Sound, tow package. Good condition, we're asking \$8,000. Call 806-346-8124.

120 Autos

FOR Sale 2004 Nissan Pathfinder. Copper Bronze color, 4 door, new windshield, good tires, automatic, 56K, 6 disk cd changer, Bose Sound, tow package. Good condition, we're asking \$8,000. Call 806-346-8124.

122 Motorcycles

FOR SALE 2008 KTM 65 \$1500 FRESH MOTOR EXCELLENT CONDITION 440-2585.

103 Homes For Sale

HOUSE for sale in White Deer, 3/2/2 recently updated, \$68,500. 806-663-6063.

NEW LOW PRICE PARTIAL Under-ground on 5 lots. Brick 4-bdr, 2 ba., tile, fireplace, central: h/a, dbl car gar. Lots of extras \$120,000. 712 Hazel. 663-0074 or 595-0104.

Rod Donaldson Agent 663-2800 Quentin Williams Realtors

NEW LISTING!! 2145 Aspen 3 bdr., 2100 Sq. Ft. MLS# 12-9271

PRICE REDUCED! \$105,000 1212 W. 21st Ave 3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba 4 car garage MLS# 11-9070

LOTS OF SPACE! 225 Dixie Dr. 4 bdr., 2395 sq. ft. Howardwick, TX OE (Listing Agent is Owner)

Look up these listings at www.rodfindahome.com Anyone can sell you a house, let me find you a home!!

OWNER Will Finance. 313 Miami, 2 bdr., 1 ba. Call Trustar RE. 665-4595.

TRUSTAR Real Estate for all your complete real estate needs. Show, list, property mgmt. 665-4595.

X-NICE brick, 3/2/2, new carpet, fenced, patio, 2537 Mary Ellen 87K. 663-2867.

115 Trailer Parks TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

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2-10 CRYPTOQUOTE

UNXK QV FZ UVZB AOX TBA

SVZ EGAXWS YVK'G

EKGXZZFOG. — NXKZQ C.

BTEAXZ

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THERE ARE FEW MEN WHO DO NOT LOVE BETTER TO GIVE ADVICE THAN TO GIVE ASSISTANCE. — HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Anchor
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Gingrich hopes high road, new funds can aid rebound

CLEVELAND (AP) — Newt Gingrich, suddenly in danger of losing his perch as Mitt Romney's strongest GOP challenger, is fine-tuning his presidential campaign to place more emphasis on raising money, guarding his home turf and trying to avoid nasty quarrels with the front-runner.

Rick Santorum's stunning success in this week's elections in Colorado, Minnesota and Missouri has fueled his claim that he, not Gingrich, is best qualified to rally conservatives who feel Romney is too moderate and unreliable.

Gingrich, the former House speaker, again faces a dilemma that has dogged him for much of the election. Should he show his feistier, meaner side at the risk of turning off voters who want pragmatic solutions more than expressions of anger? Or should he use a tamer, high-minded tone and risk losing economically anxious, resentful Republicans such as those who handed him his only victory, in South Carolina?

His aide R.C. Hammond said Gingrich favors the second option, at least for now.

"We need to go hard at demonstrating we are the one campaign of leadership," Hammond said in an interview in Cleveland, where Gingrich spoke Wednesday without mentioning Santorum, Romney or his own poor showing in Tuesday's voting.

Gingrich wants to avoid the harsh personal exchanges with Romney that have sometimes dominated the Republican campaign, Hammond said, and he wants to show he's a better choice than Santorum by letting voters compare their records.

Gingrich plans few public appearances in the coming week, and none in highly competitive states. He will speak at a major convention of conservatives in Washington on Friday. He plans to spend Monday through Wednesday in California, mixing a few public events with eight fundraisers, Hammond said.

On Feb. 17 and 18, Gingrich will campaign in Georgia, the state he represented in Congress for 20 years ending in 1998. He needs to win Georgia, Tennessee and Oklahoma in the March 6 "Super Tuesday" primary, and either win Ohio or come close. Six other states, including some small ones and Romney's home state of Massachusetts, are voting that day.

Gingrich has vowed to stay positive before, only to abruptly attack Romney, the "elite media" and other targets, with mixed results. Gingrich's criticisms of Romney's Bain Capital record and Cayman Island investments fell flat with many GOP audiences, and he dropped them. But Gingrich's acid rebukes of report-



Gingrich

ers in two South Carolina debates, plus a strong response to Romney's attack ads, helped him revive his campaign after a steep drop in Iowa.

Many GOP insiders are dubious that the tempestuous Gingrich can stay positive for long. And some question whether he can win by doing so, given Romney's big advantages in money and organization.

Whatever his long-term intentions are, Gingrich went out of his way Wednesday to accentuate the positive at the Jergens metal manufacturing plant in Cleveland.

Saying Washington needs wholesale change, Gingrich told workers: "It's a lot more than just beating Barack Obama. It's developing a positive program that allows us to create jobs, a positive program that allows us to produce energy, a positive program that allows us to fix Social Security."

Hammond said Gingrich repeatedly cites his work with President Ronald Reagan in the 1980s, plus his "big ideas" for initiatives like space exploration, to show he has the experience and vision to lead the nation to more robust, prosperous times.

"We need to build up our momentum again to roll over Romney," Hammond said. He said Tuesday's elections proved that Romney will have great trouble securing the nomination.

Countless Republicans will reject that view, of course. And even if Romney does falter, Santorum's allies say it's the former Pennsylvania senator who has earned the right to be the conservative alternative.

Gary Lacara of Fairview, Texas, said either Gingrich or Santorum should drop out so conservatives can consolidate behind one candidate who can beat Romney.

"I really like Gingrich personally, but my head says Gingrich has to get out," said Lacara, 57, who attended a recent Santorum rally in Allen, Texas. The state's primary is set for April 3.

Neither Gingrich nor Hammond gave any hints Wednesday that Gingrich will attack Santorum more energetically than before. In three Ohio campaign stops on Tuesday, Gingrich's few mentions of his rival from Pennsylvania generally focused on Santorum's complaints that Gingrich's space exploration plans are too costly.

Gingrich's top advisers recently huddled for several days in Las Vegas. They concluded that Romney's

flaws, including what many perceive as his being dodgy and untrustworthy, would eventually drag him down, said one participant, who would speak only on background because the meetings were private. Now that Romney's "inevitability" has been fractured even earlier than expected, the adviser said, Republicans will scrutinize Santorum and Gingrich as bona fide possibilities to face Obama.

Gingrich's advisers say they believe the former speaker will fare better because he has more ambitious ideas and a stronger ties to GOP accomplishments of the past three decades than does Santorum.

Of course, Gingrich also has a legacy of ethical problems and feuding with lawmakers in both parties, as Romney noted in his many TV attack ads in Iowa and Florida.

Hammond said voters are drawn to Gingrich's "statesmanship" qualities. That doesn't prevent Gingrich from denouncing Obama in condescending tones, calling him "the best food stamp president" in U.S. history.

Rep. Phil Gingrey, a Georgia Republican who backs Gingrich, says there is risk in veering too far to the nice-guy side.

"What would the results in South Carolina have been if he didn't fight back?" Gingrey said. "I say don't hold anything back. He needs to do what he needs to do to win."

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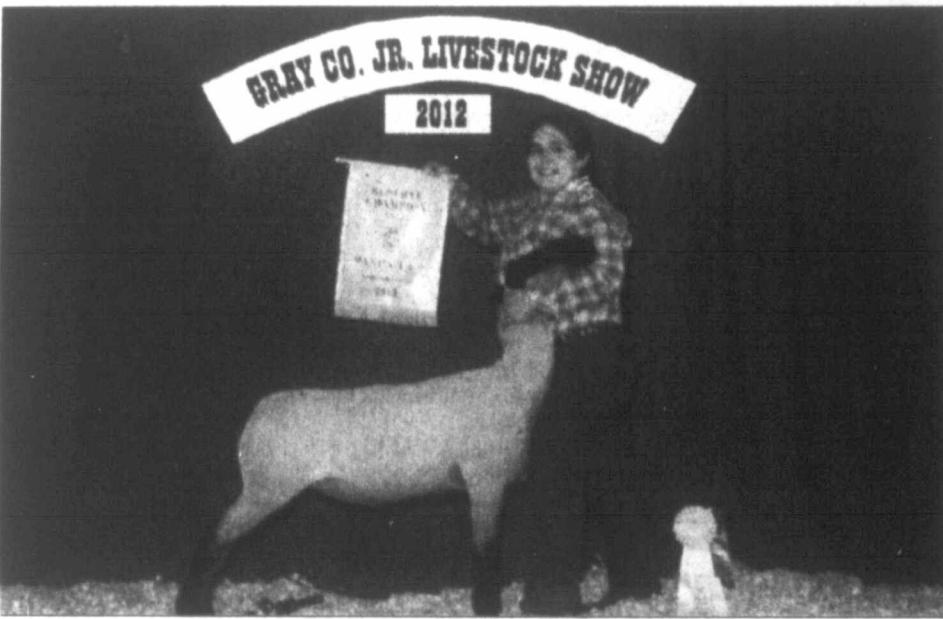
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CORRECTION



Janell Parks with the Reserve Champion lamb

The photo shown at left was misidentified in the Thursday edition of The Pampa News. It is being reprinted today with the correct caption. The Pampa News apologizes for the error.

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Entry Form

Please attach the following form to your photos. Photos submitted without this information will not be considered. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you wish you photos returned. Mail completed form and photos to Photography Contest, The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, TX 79065.

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Mailing Address _____

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The names of people in the photo (if any) from left to right, front row to back row _____

Description of photo _____

Submission by email: Send the form information with the photo(s) attached to rpribble@thepampanews.com. Photos should be sent in high resolution, jpg format.

Contest rules—Each photo submitted to the contest must be taken by the person submitting it and must have been taken since Jan. 1, 2011. The photos cannot have appeared previously in any other publication or contest. The Pampa News will publish all the winners, and many of the other submissions in our annual Pride issue in March.

Rivalry incidents have new meaning for Miller as coach

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa head coach Dustin Miller's experience with rivals date back to when he was a quarterback for the Harvesters in the 1980s, and even back then, getting back to the bus in Borger was an eventful process.

"I remember times there were students rocking the bus and pushing on it," Miller said. "We had to wear helmets to the bus."

As a player, Miller enjoyed those times, but as a head coach and someone responsible for other people's children, he now has an added perspective.

"It brings a new sense of meaning, urgency and purpose to a game that's extremely important to you," Miller said. "One that you will do anything in your power not to lose. As a coach, it's a little more of a headache, worrying about how kids are going to react and fans are going to react."

Miller said his experiences in the Borger rivalry was something he lived for as a player.

"It was something you looked forward to," Miller said. "You knew it was coming. You hoped they would get similar treatment at your place but not to the extreme."

Miller said rivalry games are his favorites.

"If you can't get ready to play your rival, then what are you playing for?" Miller said. "I would much rather play a rival than a non-district game that has no meaning."

In 2010 during his sixth year as the Harvesters basketball coach, Miller got reunited with his rival Borger as Pampa

dropped to 3A, also joining Perryton and Dalhart in District 1-3A.

In his first two seasons of 1-3A, Miller has experienced his fair share of unusual incidents. In a January 18, 2011 game at Dalhart, Miller was hit in the head by an object thrown by a fan. After a February 11, 2011, game against Borger, Miller was on the bus when it was shot by a pellet gun. After last Friday's game at Perryton, Miller had a woman from the Perryton side charge at him and was on the bus when it was shot by paintballs on the highway.

"Those two incidents (Borger and Perryton) were the two most bizarre things I've been a part of," Miller said. "I've been in bizarre situations in high school and college that you can't explain. These things have topped it off."

Miller said things are different as a coach because the times are different.

"You worry about things that you might not have 20 years ago," Miller said. "You read things in the paper and see things on TV that might worry a little more than when you were in school."

Things between Pampa and Perryton got heated at the end of last year. The Rangers beat the Harvesters two out of three games but Pampa advanced further in the playoffs. Miller said he doesn't know why things got heated.

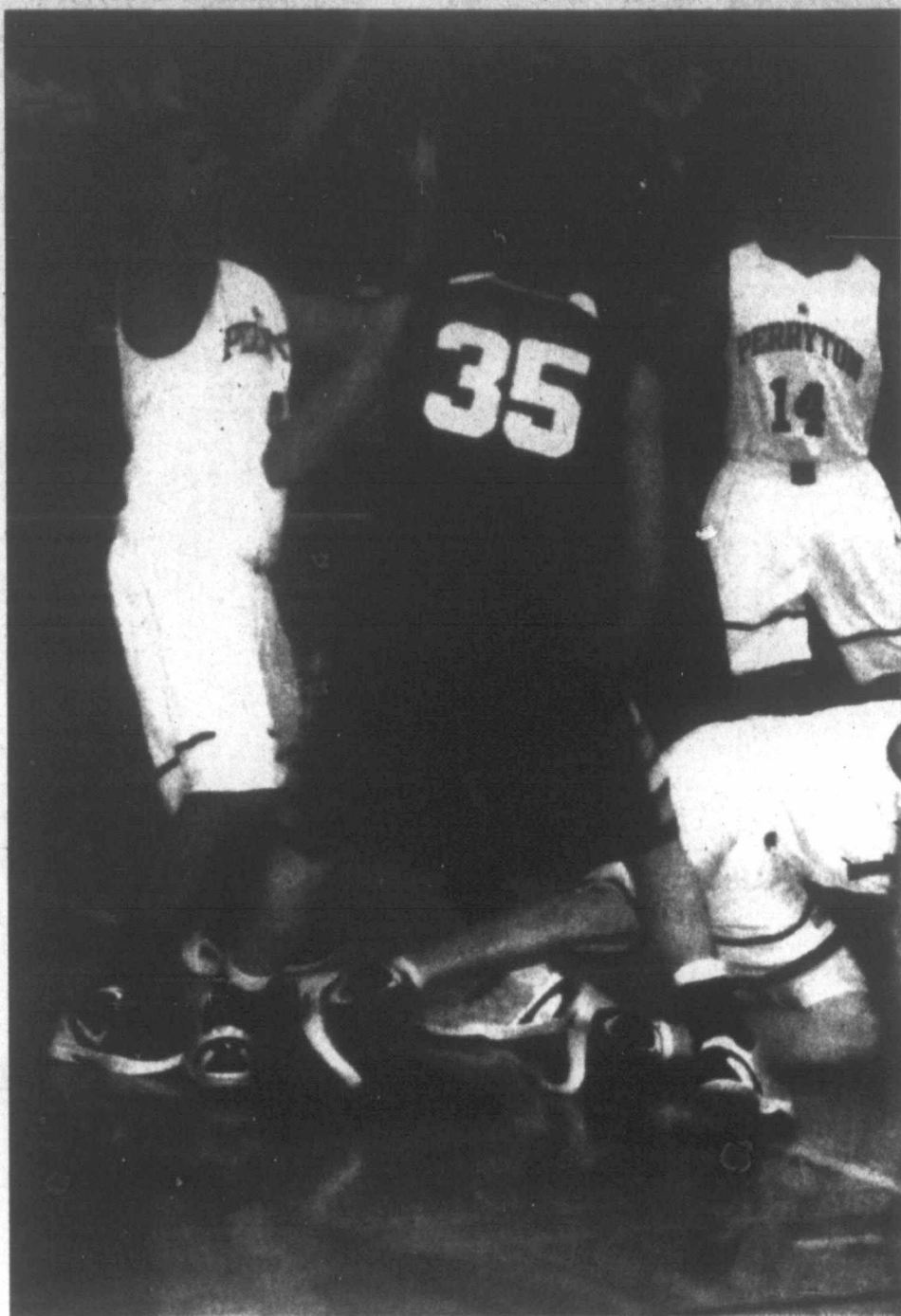
"There is no ill will between me and their coach," Miller said. "I don't know if there is an ill will with our players off the court. I think we just really like beating each other."

Miller said he likes that its getting more intense with Perryton but not to the extreme of Friday.

"When we entered this district it was Pampa-Borger, Pampa-Borger, Pampa-Borger," Miller said. "Now its a little bit heated everywhere. I do think it took a turn for the worse with our last trip (to Perryton). I think those issues are resolved."



Miller



staff photo by Andrew Glover
Junior Tyler Powell (35) and Derrek Pollard battle for a ball in Perryton on February 3. The intensity has picked up between Pampa and Perryton.



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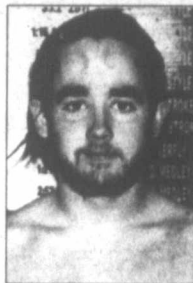
Sports

Meet your 13 straight district champion swim team



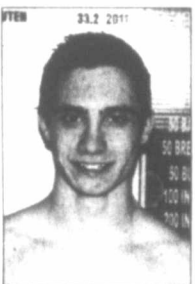
Edward Garvin, coach
Garvin enters his fourth season at the helm of the Harvesters and Lady Harvesters swimming teams. Garvin has won four district titles with each of them.

Karl Pfitzner, Sr.
Won the 200-yard freestyle and Finished second in the 500-yard freestyle and was apart of the winning 200-medley and 400-freestyle relay teams at district.



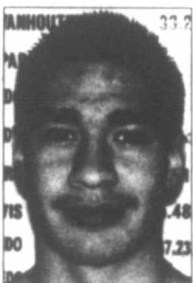
Kendle Ramey, Sr.
Won the 500-yard freestyle, 100-yard backstroke and was part of the first-place 200-medley and 400-freestyle winning relay teams.

Nathan Towry, Sr.
Won the 500-yard freestyle, finished second in the 200-yard individual medley and was part of the winning 200-medley and 400-freestyle relay teams.



J.T. Brown, Jr.
Won the 100-yard breaststroke, finished fifth in the 100-yard freestyle and was a part of the winning 200-medley and 200-freestyle relay teams.

Ramon Portillo Jr.
Finished second in the 100-yard butterfly, finished fourth in the 50-yard freestyle and was a part of the winning 200-freestyle and 400-freestyle winning teams.



Chris Garvin, So.
Finished third in the 200-yard freestyle and fifth in the 500-yard freestyle.

Michael Foreman, So.
Finished fourth in the 100-yard backstroke and sixth in the 200-yard freestyle.



Morgan Graef, So.
Won the 200-yard individual medley, won the 100-yard breaststroke, was a part of the second place 200-freestyle relay team and the winning 200-medley relay team.

Dalton Hudson, Fr.
Won the 100-yard butter fly and was part of the winning 200-medley and 400-freestyle relay teams.



Mackenzie Parks, Fr.
Finished third in the 200-yard freestyle, finished third in the 100-yard butterfly and was part of the winning 400-yard freestyle relay team.

Samantha Van Houten, Fr.
Finished second in the 100-yard freestyle, finished second in the 50-yard freestyle and was part of the second place 200-yard freestyle relay.



Sierrah Adams, Fr.
Finished sixth in the 50-yard freestyle, finished fourth in the 100-yard butterfly.

Tyler Lambright, Fr.
Finished second in the 200-yard freestyle, finished third in the 100-yard backstroke, was a part of the second place 200-yard freestyle relay and the winning 400-yard freestyle relay.



Vanessa Valenzuela, Fr.
Finished second in the 500-yard freestyle, finished third in the 200-yard freestyle and was a part of the winning 200-medley and 400-freestyle relay teams.



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Not Pictured: Samantha Willson, Sr.
Finished second in the 100-yard butterfly, finished third in the 50-yard freestyle, was a part of the second place 200-yard freestyle team and the winning 200-yard medley relay team.

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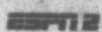
NASCAR THIS WEEK

ON THE TUBE

Sprint Cup
Daytona 500,
Feb. 26, 1 p.m.



Nationwide Series
DRIVE4OPD 300,
Feb. 25, 1 p.m.



Truck Series
NextEra Energy Resources 250,
Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m.



BURNING ISSUES

► The Super Bowl has come and gone. Congratulations to the New York Giants. Now it's time for sporting eyes to turn to Daytona Beach, Fla.

► Though some prominent NASCAR figures were at Super Bowl XLVI, there's no truth to the rumor that rules changes are being considered in response to the NFL showcase.

► Pro football is over. The Budweiser Shootout isn't until Feb. 18. This weekend ... what will we do? What will we watch?

► The starting times of races will be virtually unchanged this season. The Darlington night race on Mother's Day weekend will start a half-hour early, with the "TV time" moved from 7:30 to 7 p.m., which probably translates to an actual start around 7:20.

► Will the magic carry over? Tony Stewart has never won a Daytona 500.

► The proposed solution to tag-team drafting is still "stop it or your engines will explode!" NASCAR officials are just making them more explosive ... with adjustments regarding the cooling capability of the cars. Meanwhile, mechanics and engineers are at work.

► As it turns out, Danica Patrick will use owner points from Tommy Baldwin Racing in a cooperative arrangement announced last week. TBR will enter David Reutimann in a No. 10 during the 26 Sprint Cup races Patrick won't enter.

► In turn, this means the champion's points will remain with ... the champion. NASCAR's policies in this regard are basically a sham.

► In particular, Greg Biffle and Jeff Burton hit the comeback trail at Daytona.

► What becomes of Red Bull's owner points? Nothing is announced, but it appears as if Landon Cassill may be involved with inheriting the points from a team that is no longer in business.



John Clark/NASCAR This Week
It's settled. Stewart-Haas driver Danica Patrick will use owner points from Tommy Baldwin Racing. Patrick will share points with David Reutimann this season.

LEGENDS AND LORE

Jeff's first Cup win

Jeff Gordon's first official Cup victory occurred on May 29, 1994 in the Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Gordon, in his signature No. 24 Chevy, won by 3.91 seconds over Rusty Wallace's Ford. Geoff Bodine, Dale Jarrett and Ernie Ivan finished third, fourth and fifth. Gordon averaged 139.445 mph and also started on the pole after qualifying at 181.439 mph. (Source: racing-reference.info)



WHO'S HOT AND WHO'S NOT



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

► **Who's hot:** Jeff Burton begins the season with seven top-10 finishes in his past eight races. Marcos Ambrose finished 11th or better in five of the last eight races of 2011.



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

► **Who's not:** Believe it or not, 2003 champion Matt Kenseth is still looking for sponsorship. ... Kurt Busch finished 13th or worse in 2011's last seven races after winning at Dover.



If you have a question or comment, write: NASCAR This Week, c/o The Gaston Gazette, P.O. Box 1538, Gastonia, NC 28053 or send an e-mail to mduffon@gastongazette.com. You can also send your NASCAR questions to Monte on Facebook at Facebook.com/monte-dutton and at Twitter.com/MonteDutton. Please specify you are submitting them for the NASCAR This Week page.

2012 LOOK AHEAD



SPRINT CUP SERIES

The first of the season's two all-star events will be run for the 34th time and for the ninth consecutive year under the lights. In the years 1979-87, it was known as the Busch Clash. It was the Bud Shootout from 1998-2000 and became the Budweiser Shootout officially in 2001.

Next up: Budweiser Shootout, Daytona International Speedway (2.5 mi.), Daytona Beach, Fla., Feb. 18.

Last year's winner: Kurt Busch, Dodge.
Recent winners: Busch (2011), Kevin Harvick (2009-10), Dale Earnhardt Jr. (2003, '08), Tony Stewart (2001-02, '07), Denny Hamlin (2006), Jimmie Johnson (2005), Dale Jarrett (2000, '04).



NATIONWIDE SERIES

For many years, Daytona hosted a National Sportsman race known as the Permatex 300 on the day before the 500, but this race's lineage officially began when what is now the Nationwide Series was founded in 1982. Dale Earnhardt won the first one and later captured five in a row from 1990-94.

Next up: Drive4OPD 300, Daytona International Speedway (2.5 mi.), 120 laps/300 miles, Daytona Beach, Fla., Feb. 25.

Last year's winner: Tony Stewart, Chevy.
Recent winners: Stewart (2005-06, '08-11), Kevin Harvick (2007), Dale Earnhardt Jr. (2002-04), Randy LaJoie (1999, 2001), Matt Kenseth (2000).



CAMPING WORLD TRUCK SERIES

Trucks never raced at Daytona until 2000, when Mike Wallace won the crash-marred debut of the series on a so-called motorist-plate track. Toyota drivers have won the past five races, and, surprisingly, no driver has ever piloted a Chevy to victory. The first seven races saw Fords win four and Dodges three. A Toyota has visited victory lane in each race since.

Next up: NextEra Energy Resources 250, Daytona Int'l Speedway (2.5 mi.), 100 laps/250 miles, Daytona Beach, Fla., Feb. 24.

Last year's winner: Michael Waltrip, Toyota.
Previous winners: Waltrip (2011), T. Potts (2010), T. Bodine (2008-09), J. Sprague (2007), M. Martin (2006), B. Hamilton (2005), C. Edwards (2004), R. Crawford (2003), R. Pessley (2002), Joe Rutman (2001), M. Wallace (2000).

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

JAMIE McMURRAY

SPRINT CUP SERIES

No. 1 Bass Pro Shops CHEVROLET



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Jamie McMurray is all right with the changes he's seen by owner Chip Ganassi. The 2010 Daytona 500 winner is also good with the expected increase in speeds for the season, based on preseason testing.

Changes For Better

McMurray confident with NASCAR's need for speed

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

Two years ago, Jamie McMurray won the Daytona 500 and Brickyard 400 in the same year. Last year, everything fell apart.

After three victories in 2010 — he also won the Charlotte Motor Speedway fall race — McMurray plummeted to 27th in the NASCAR Sprint Cup points standings, finishing in the top five only twice. He won a pole in the spring of the year at Martinsville (Va.) Speedway. Needless to say, changes were in order during the offseason. Team owner Chip Ganassi overhauled the entire team in the wake of disappointing seasons by both McMurray and Juan Pablo Montoya.

"Well, Chip has made a really big commitment," McMurray said. "I mean, they changed a lot of management. There's been a tremendous amount of changes to the '42' car (Montoya). There have been quite a few changes to the '1' car (his). We hired a lot of new people from different organizations.

"You know, the frustrating part is that we won races with the guys who were here before, won some really

big races. But I think the morale in the shop got way down, and everyone ... you know, you start criticizing everybody, and Chip needed to make a change to get everybody pumped back up."

Based on preseason testing, the speeds at Daytona International Speedway figure to be way up. It appears as if speeds over 200 miles per hour will be common in the Budweiser Shootout on Feb. 18 and the Daytona 500 on Feb. 26.

"For me it doesn't really feel any different," said McMurray, who is from Joplin, Mo. "You can't tell a big difference from 190 to 205. You do at a place like Texas or Atlanta, but here (Daytona), not so much because you have so much grip, the cars drive so well, and you don't feel the big speed difference.

"I don't know why NASCAR is OK with going a little faster now. My guess would be that they have become educated on how fast the cars can go and, if they get out of control, how stable they will be. I always thought 200 mph was the 'don't go past' zone, but they seem to be comfortable with that, and the car doesn't feel a lot different."

They'll cooperate even if they don't talk with each other

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

NASCAR officials have, by their own admission, been attempting to limit the incidence of tag-team drafting at the so-called "plate tracks." Daytona and Talladega. Most of the changes will be technical, but one involves communications, or lack thereof.

In the upcoming races at Daytona International Speedway, drivers will no longer be allowed to communicate with one another by radio. This practice is a recent phenomenon, and Dale Earnhardt Jr. said discarding it will have minimal effect.

"I don't think it'll be a big deal," he said. "You know, pretty much everybody is working with teammates (via the draft) anyway. I don't think they're going to limit that.

"When we first started tandem drafting, you might end up working with somebody outside of your company, but then everybody sort of got a little strict on who they were going to work with and how they were going to do it, and they stuck with that plan the entire races.

She's everywhere — Not that this comes as a surprise, but Danica Patrick was featured on two GoDaddy.com ads during the Super Bowl. Patrick, who enters NASCAR fulltime this season, has been featured in a total of 10 Super Bowl ads during the past few years.

NUTS AND BOLTS

It's back — National Speed Sport News, the venerable publication that went out of business in March 2011, will return as a monthly, not weekly, publication under the direction of Ralph Sheheen, known for his television work. A March season-preview issue will be published under the name Speed Sport Magazine.

The publication dates back to 1934 and was published by Chris Economaki beginning in 1950.

Ante upped — The Daytona 500 purse will exceed \$19 million, including a new \$200,000 bonus for the leader at the halfway point.

If the green flag is out, the bonus will go to the leader of lap 200. If that lap is run under caution, the bonus will be awarded to the leader of the fifth green-flag lap afterward.

It's a secret — Only Ford has unveiled its proposed 2013 Sprint Cup model, but the other three manufacturers — Chevy, Dodge and Toyota — tested proposed models at Homestead-Miami Speedway last week. The session was closed in part because the other three manufacturers are not ready to make their tentative designs public yet.

The participants were apparently Kasey Kahne (Chevy), Kyle Busch (Toyota), Matt Kenseth (Ford) and Sam Hornish Jr. (Dodge).

FEUD OF THE WEEK



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

A.J. ALLMENDINGER VS. ARIC ALMIROLA
Allmendinger vacated the seat at Richard Petty Motorsports that Almirola inherited. Both enter the season under considerable pressure. Kurt Busch's shoes are tough ones for Allmendinger to fill. This is Almirola's big chance. Others will compare the performances, whether they do or not.

NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton gives his take: "This will likely be good-natured and polite ... unless the two should tangle early in the season."

Know Your NASCAR

1. What was "Tiny" Lund's first name?
2. What is Richard Petty's middle name?
3. What is David Pearson's middle name?
4. What is Bobby Allison's middle name?
5. What is Jeff Gordon's middle name?
6. What was Big Bill France's full name?
7. What was Red Byron's hometown?
8. What was Bobby Isaac's hometown?
9. What was Alan Kulwicki's hometown?
10. What was Joe Weatherly's hometown?
11. What is Harry Gant's hometown?
12. What was Wendell Scott's hometown?



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

NASCAR legend and owner Richard Petty

12. Danville, Va.
11. Taylorsville, N.C.
10. Norfolk, Va.
9. Greenfield, Wis.
8. Cataula, N.C.
7. Andromeda, Ala.
6. William Henry Petty France
5. Michigan
4. Arthur, Va.
3. Gene, Ill.
2. Le Roy, Mo.
1. Dawsonville, Ga.

FAN TIPS

Carolinas, Listen Up

If you live close to the NASCAR Hall of Fame in Charlotte, you're in luck. The Hall has implemented a "local rate" for February and March. North and South Carolina residents receive a discounted admission price of \$15.95 for adults, \$14.95 for seniors and \$9.95 for children. ID is, of course, required. For more information, check out www.NASCARhall.com or call, toll-free, 877-231-2010.



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Kasey Kahne, driving a Chevrolet, was among a group of four NASCAR drivers to take part in a secret testing of three manufacturers — Chevy, Dodge and Toyota — at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

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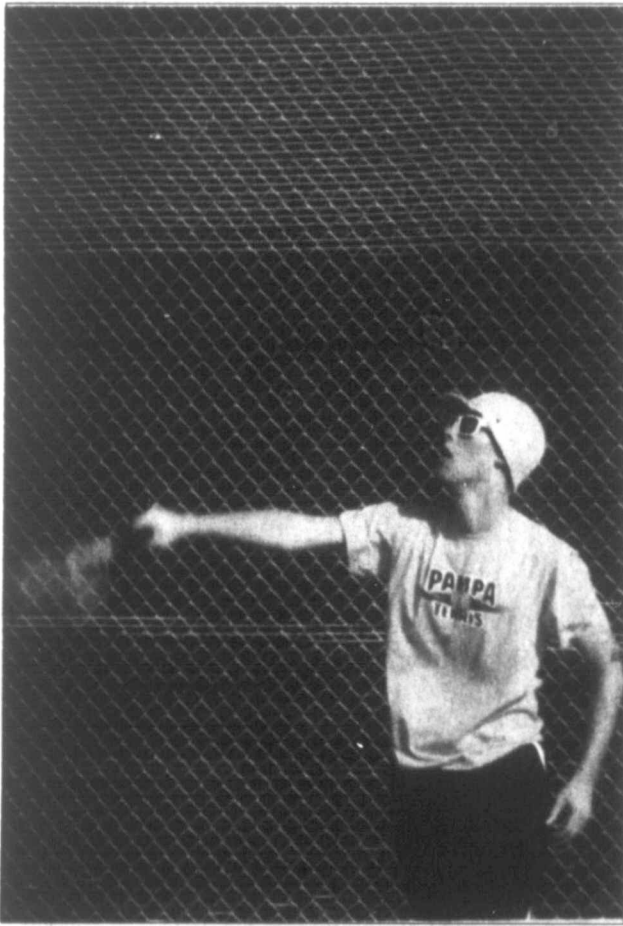
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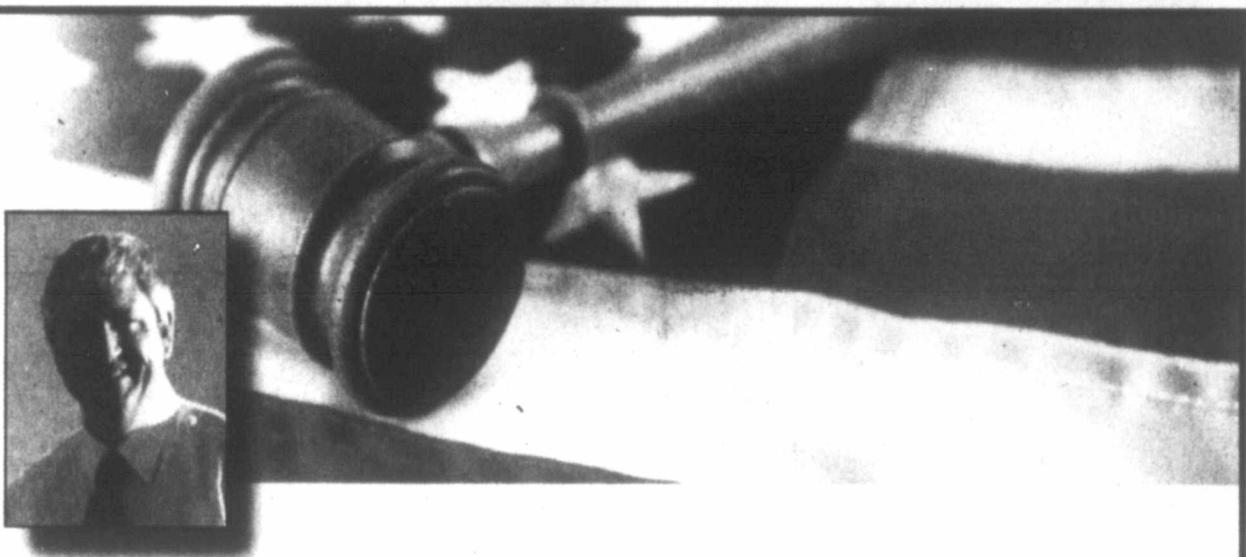
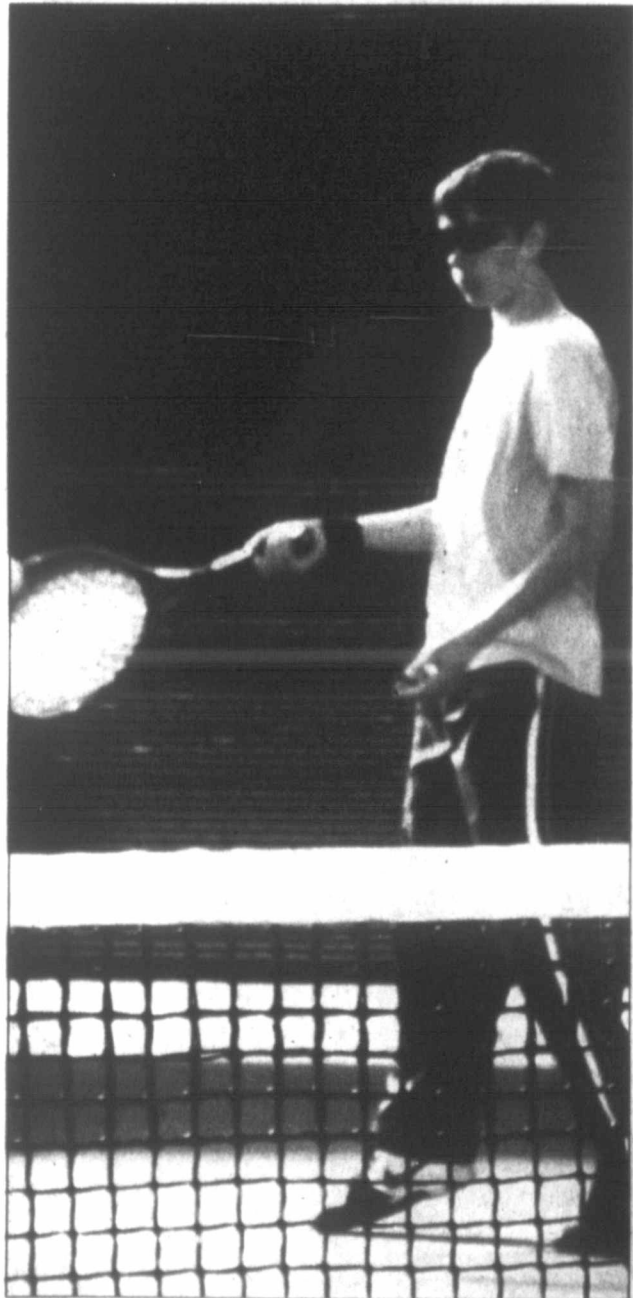
Sports

Sports images of the past week around Gray County



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An Injustice Anchored Is A Great Injustice Unchained

photos courtesy of **Toni McClendon,**
Amy Herring and **Ellen Gage**

TOP LEFT: Pampa Harvester tennis members pose with their medals from the Andrews Tournament. From left: Braden Russell, Nick Nelson, David Moore, Makayla Hampton, Hunter Hucks, Collin McClendon and Genevieve Zavala. **TOP RIGHT:** McLean senior Jordan Herring defends a pass against Groom February 3. **MIDDLE:** Senior Collin McClendon hits a ball during the Andrews' Tournament. **BOTTOM:** Sophomore Brandon Gage returns a ball in the Andrews Tournament